

## Patient-specific electronic decision support reduces prescription of excessive doses.

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[Clinician decision support systems](#) (CDSS) hold great promise as a means of promoting [appropriate care](#), reducing [diagnostic errors](#), and minimizing [medication prescribing errors](#). However, a recent [systematic review](#) found that, taken as a whole, decision support systems achieved only small changes in provider behavior. In this study, a custom-designed CDSS that focused on preventing excessive medication dosages was implemented within a [computerized provider order entry system](#), and resulted in a significant reduction in prescribing errors. Clinicians accepted one in four of the CDSS warnings—a seemingly low proportion that is, in fact, much higher than response rates found in many [prior studies](#) of drug alert warnings. The system was carefully tailored to be integrated into provider workflow and to provide only patient-specific warnings, factors that likely contributed to its success.