

## Effects of learning climate and registered nurse staffing on medication errors.

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The direct relationship between registered nurse staffing and the safety of inpatient care is supported by a large body of [literature](#). In addition to staffing ratios, [safety culture](#) has also been found to be a [determinant](#) of errors. This study explored the links between nurse staffing, safety culture, and medication errors, and found evidence for a complex relationship. The *learning climate* (a component of safety culture that measures communication between providers) was directly correlated with medication error rate, and also appeared to interact with staffing ratios. Nursing units with a negative learning climate reported more medication errors if they were also staffed by a lower proportion of registered nurses. An Institute of Medicine [report](#) called for improving patient safety by addressing cultural factors, including learning climate, that negatively influence nurse working conditions.