

Rapid-response teams.

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Jones D, DeVita MA, Bellomo R. Rapid-response teams. N Engl J Med. 2011;365(2):139-46.

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Delays in clinical deterioration recognition and failures to rescue lead to serious adverse events. [Rapid response systems](#) (RRS) have been implemented with the aim of improving the identification and management of clinically worsening hospital ward patients. Although [early studies](#) reviewing RRS showed improvements in clinical outcomes, [subsequent](#) results have [not shown](#) consistent benefit. This review describes RRS, including controversies surrounding them, potential benefits and limitations, as well as strategies to implement them successfully. An AHRQ WebM&M [perspective](#) discusses lessons from early experiences with RRS.