

Prevalence of medication administration errors in two medical units with automated prescription and dispensing.

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Rodriguez-Gonzalez CG, Herranz-Alonso A, Martin-Barbero ML, et al. Prevalence of medication administration errors in two medical units with automated prescription and dispensing. J Am Med Inform Assoc. 2012;19(1):72-8. doi:10.1136/amiajnl-2011-000332.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/prevalence-medication-administration-errors-two-medical-units-automated-prescription-and>

Technological solutions such as [computerized provider order entry](#) (CPOE) hold promise for reducing medication errors at the prescribing and dispensing stage, but patients may still be harmed by incorrect administration of medications, which have been shown to be disturbingly common in prior [studies](#). Conducted at an academic hospital in Spain that had an established CPOE system, this study found an overall administration error rate of 22%, consistent with prior studies. The hospital in question did not have a barcoding medication administration system. Combining barcoding with CPOE in a closed-loop system has been [shown](#) to significantly reduce the overall medication error rate.