

## **Avoiding handover fumbles: a controlled trial of a structured handover tool versus traditional handover methods.**

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Payne CE, Stein JM, Leong T, et al. Avoiding handover fumbles: a controlled trial of a structured handover tool versus traditional handover methods. *BMJ Qual Saf.* 2012;21(11):925-32. doi:10.1136/bmjqs-2011-000308.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/avoiding-handover-fumbles-controlled-trial-structured-handover-tool-versus-traditional>

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[Handoffs](#) at academic institutions in the United States have likely increased since the implementation of new [duty hour regulations](#) for residents in 2011, and several [studies](#) demonstrate that poor signouts are a risk factor for adverse events. While residency programs are required to provide formal training in signouts, the optimal format for written signout remains undefined. This controlled trial performed in a large internal medicine residency program demonstrated that implementation of a standardized, Web-based signout resulted in improved documentation of key information and improved resident perception of patient safety. The recent data and major issues around inpatient handoffs are summarized in this [AHRQ WebM&M perspective](#).