

## **Adverse events among children in Canadian hospitals: the Canadian Paediatric Adverse Events Study.**

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Matlow A, Baker R, Flintoft V, et al. Adverse events among children in Canadian hospitals: the Canadian Paediatric Adverse Events Study. CMAJ. 2012;184(13):E709-718. doi:10.1503/cmaj.112153.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/adverse-events-among-children-canadian-hospitals-canadian-paediatric-adverse-events-study>

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Hospitalized children are particularly vulnerable to specific types of errors, such as [medication errors](#). This Canadian study used a trigger tool approach to estimate the frequency of all types of adverse events in hospitalized children, and found that nearly 1 in 10 pediatric patients suffers an adverse event while hospitalized. This prevalence is similar to [classic studies](#) performed in adult populations. Preventable adverse events, which accounted for approximately half of all events, were particularly common in children undergoing surgery or requiring [intensive care](#). [Diagnostic errors](#) also accounted for a significant proportion of preventable adverse events. A preventable error in a critically ill 8-month-old child is discussed in an AHRQ WebM&M [commentary](#).