

## Improving situation awareness to reduce unrecognized clinical deterioration and serious safety events.

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Lack of appropriate [situational awareness](#) is an important [source](#) of [diagnostic errors](#). One particularly dramatic outcome of poor situational awareness is an unanticipated transfer to an intensive care unit (ICU) due to failure to identify and treat clinical deterioration in a hospitalized patient. This study aimed to design a novel care system at a large pediatric hospital that would improve situational awareness of clinically deteriorating patients and ultimately decrease serious safety events. The team utilized a number of overlapping interventions, including proactive risk identification, frequent multidisciplinary huddles, and implementation of mechanisms that promote a continuous [learning organization](#). This comprehensive system was associated with an almost 50% reduction in "unrecognized situation awareness failures events" (UNSAFE) leading to ICU transfer.