

Hospital board oversight of quality and patient safety: a narrative review and synthesis of recent empirical research.

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Millar R, Mannion R, Freeman T, et al. Hospital board oversight of quality and patient safety: a narrative review and synthesis of recent empirical research. *Milbank Q.* 2013;91(4):738-70. doi:10.1111/1468-0009.12032.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/hospital-board-oversight-quality-and-patient-safety-narrative-review-and-synthesis-recent>

Hospital leadership oversight is thought to be critical for advancing patient safety initiatives. This narrative review synthesized 122 studies examining the role of [hospital board](#) oversight in fostering safety practices. Investigators found that [high-performing hospitals](#) are more likely to have skilled board members and standardized board processes compared with low-performing hospitals, highlighting the value of effective and committed [leadership](#) that prioritizes quality and safety improvement. However, more research is needed to determine optimal hospital governance. A past AHRQ WebM&M [interview](#) discussed the role of leadership and medical administration in patient safety.