

Association of face-to-face handoffs and outcomes of hospitalized internal medicine patients.

April 29, 2015

Schouten WM, Burton C, Jones LKD, et al. Association of face-to-face handoffs and outcomes of hospitalized internal medicine patients. J Hosp Med. 2015;10(3):137-41. doi:10.1002/jhm.2293.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/association-face-face-handoffs-and-outcomes-hospitalized-internal-medicine-patients>

This observational study compared face-to-face [handoffs](#)—the [gold standard](#)—with written handoffs and found no difference in escalation of care, length of stay, hospital mortality, or adverse events as defined by the [Global Trigger Tool](#). These results challenge the current recommendations about handoffs, but larger broader studies are needed to determine the optimal handoff strategy.