

Observation for assessment of clinician performance: a narrative review.

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Yanes AF, McElroy LM, Abecassis ZA, et al. Observation for assessment of clinician performance: a narrative review. *BMJ Qual Saf.* 2016;25(1):46-55. doi:10.1136/bmjqs-2015-004171.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/observation-assessment-clinician-performance-narrative-review>

Observation has been used as a way to study opportunities for improvement in [teamwork](#), practice, and [guideline compliance](#). According to this review, observation was utilized most often in high-risk environments—like the [emergency department](#)—and helped to identify weaknesses in care processes. The authors also describe drawbacks to this method, such as the [Hawthorne effect](#) and the substantial resources required to train observers and data analyzers.