

## **Ambulatory computerized prescribing and preventable adverse drug events.**

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Overhage JM, Gandhi TK, Hope C, et al. Ambulatory Computerized Prescribing and Preventable Adverse Drug Events. J Patient Saf. 2016;12(2):69-74. doi:10.1097/PTS.0000000000000194.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/ambulatory-computerized-prescribing-and-preventable-adverse-drug-events>

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Adverse drug events (ADEs) are a [common source](#) of patient harm in the [ambulatory setting](#). A [substantial proportion](#) of ADEs are caused by preventable errors in medication prescribing or monitoring. The introduction of [computerized provider order entry](#) (CPOE) has been shown to reduce the rate of medical errors in the inpatient setting. This before–after study examined rates of ADEs in primary care practices that implemented a CPOE system in Boston and Indianapolis. At baseline, the potential ADE rate was more than seven-fold greater in Indianapolis compared to Boston. Following CPOE implementation, this rate decreased by 56% in Indianapolis but increased by 104% in Boston, and there was no change overall in preventable ADEs. A recent [PSNet annual perspective](#) reviewed the relationship and current evidence linking CPOE and patient safety.