

Adverse inpatient outcomes during the transition to a new electronic health record system: observational study.

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Electronic health records (EHRs) offer [safety benefits](#), but the disruption associated with EHR implementation can lead to [unintended consequences](#) as well. This observational study sought to determine whether the incidence of adverse patient outcomes (including certain [AHRQ Patient Safety Indicators](#), readmissions, and mortality) was higher at 17 hospitals that were transitioning to a new EHR than in 399 hospitals that did not change their EHR. Investigators found no significant difference between safety outcomes of hospitals with a new EHR and those without a new EHR. This large-scale study across multiple institutions demonstrates that patients' care remains safe during EHR transitions. The authors suggest that these results should allay safety concerns for institutions planning to implement EHRs. A [PSNet interview](#) described the challenges associated with EHR transitions.