

Effect of standardized handoff curriculum on improved clinician preparedness in the intensive care unit: a stepped-wedge cluster randomized clinical trial.

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[Handoffs](#) represent a significant risk to patient safety. [Standardizing communication](#) during the handoff process has the potential to [reduce harm](#). In this trial, researchers assessed the impact of a standardized handoff curriculum on perceived interprovider communication in eight intensive care units (ICUs) across two hospital systems. Although the curriculum was perceived to improve shift preparedness among providers, they found no association with better patient outcomes in the ICUs, including length of stay, duration of mechanical ventilation, or reintubations. An accompanying editorial suggests that further research on [standardized handoffs](#) in the ICU is necessary to better understand the potential for improving patient outcomes. A previous [PSNet interview](#) discussed handoffs and the implementation and findings of the landmark I-PASS study.