

Adverse Events in Long-Term-Care Hospitals: National Incidence Among Medicare Beneficiaries.

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Levinson DR. Adverse Events In Long-Term-Care Hospitals: National Incidence Among Medicare Beneficiaries. Washington, DC: US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General; 2018. Report No. OEI-06-14-00530

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/adverse-events-long-term-care-hospitals-national-incidence-among-medicare-beneficiaries>

Frail populations cared for in [long-term care facilities](#) are at high risk for [adverse events](#). This report from the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) analyzed Medicare data from 2008 to 2016 to determine the prevalence of adverse events in long-term care hospitals and the resultant [harm](#) to residents. Nearly half of patients experienced adverse events or temporary harm events. A significant proportion of these events were considered serious, meaning that they led to prolonged stay, transfer to acute care, provision of life-saving intervention, or resulted in permanent harm or death. More than half of these events were found to be [preventable](#) and were attributed either to error or substandard care. The OIG recommends that patient safety efforts undertaken by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services specifically address long-term care facilities. A past [WebM&M commentary](#) discussed safety and quality of long-term care.