

## A systematic literature review and narrative synthesis on the risks of medical discharge letters for patients' safety.

April 24, 2019

Schwarz CM, Hoffmann M, Schwarz P, et al. A systematic literature review and narrative synthesis on the risks of medical discharge letters for patients' safety. BMC Health Serv Res. 2019;19(1):158. doi:10.1186/s12913-019-3989-1.

https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/systematic-literature-review-and-narrative-synthesis-risks-medical-discharge-letters-patients

<u>Care transitions</u> represent a vulnerable time for patients, especially at the time of hospital discharge. In this systematic review, researchers identified several factors related to discharge summaries that may adversely impact the safety of discharged patients, including delays in sending discharge summaries to <u>outpatient providers</u> as well as missing or low-quality information.