

## Moving beyond the weekend effect: how can we best target interventions to improve patient care?

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/moving-beyond-weekend-effect-how-can-we-best-target-interventions-improve-patient-care>

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Research has shown that patients admitted to the hospital on the weekend may experience worse outcomes compared to those admitted on weekdays (the '[weekend effect](#)'). This editorial highlights the [challenges](#) to empirically evaluate the underlying mechanisms contributing to the weekend effect. The authors propose viewing the weekend effect as a proxy for [staffing levels](#) and the influence of [other factors](#) influencing outcomes for patients admitted on weekends, such as patient acuity, clinician skill-mix and access to diagnostic tests or other ancillary services.