

Differential diagnosis checklists reduce diagnostic error differentially: a randomised experiment.

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Kämmer JE, Schaubert SK, Hautz SC, et al. Differential diagnosis checklists reduce diagnostic error differentially: a randomised experiment. *Med Educ.* 2021;55(10):1172-1182. doi:10.1111/medu.14596.
<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/differential-diagnosis-checklists-reduce-diagnostic-error-differentially-randomised>

[Checklists](#) are increasingly used to [improve diagnosis](#) by supporting clinical decision making and ensuring that all possible diagnoses are [considered](#). This study explored the effect of a prompt to generate alternative diagnoses versus a differential diagnosis checklist on diagnostic accuracy among medical students completing computer-generated patient cases. The researchers found that the checklist improved diagnostic accuracy compared to a prompt, but only if the checklist included the correct diagnosis; if the correct diagnosis was not included on the checklist, diagnostic accuracy was slightly reduced.