

The safety of inpatient health care.

January 25, 2023

Bates DW, Levine DM, Salmasian H, et al. The safety of inpatient health care. *New Engl J Med.* 2023;388(2):142-153. doi:10.1056/nejmsa2206117.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/safety-inpatient-health-care>

An accurate understanding of the frequency, severity, and preventability of [adverse events](#) is required to effectively improve patient safety. This study included [review](#) of more than 2,800 inpatient records from 11 American hospitals with nearly one quarter having at least one preventable or not preventable adverse event. Overall, approximately 7% of all admissions included at least one preventable event and 1% had a severity level of serious or higher. An accompanying editorial by Dr. Donald Berwick sees the results of this study as a needed stimulus for leadership to prioritize patient safety anew.