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NEWS BRIEF | 05.05.10

Study shows CPOE can affect mortality rates

Stanford University Medical Center (SUMC) and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (LPCH) completed a study observing the effects of a computerized physician order entry system (CPOE) on hospital mortality rates. This study is the first to provide concrete findings that CPOE could affect mortality rates.

The study covers an eighteen month period beginning in 2007 following the implementation of a CPOE system at Lucile Packard's Children Hospital. The study found that a total of 36 lives were saved when comparing observed mortality with expected mortality of its discharged patients.

The report does suggest that other improvements in patient care such as adjustments in ICU staffing, process and workflow changes, rollout of Rapid Response Teams, and more, may also have contributed. The researchers stress that the study can only conclude that there is a correlation between CPOE and mortality rates.

To learn more, [view the SUMC public release](#).

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CHIME responds to the ONC's NPRM for EHR certification programs

The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) submitted a comment letter to the Office of the National Coordinator for Healthcare Information Technology regarding the interim final rule for the development of EHR certification programs.

CHIME is primarily concerned about two issues: whether there will be adequate capacity to process the large volume of certification requests and how the



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National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the ONC will coordinate the testing and certification processes.

Public comments on this interim final rule must be submitted by May 10, 2010.

[Submit a comment >>](#)

[View a complete list of CHIME's suggestions >>](#)

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AHRQ creates Effective Healthcare Program podcasts

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has created a new series titled Healthcare 411 for their Effective Health Care Program. A new webpage hosts over sixty podcasts that provide patients, consumers, and clinicians with information on the most effective treatments for various illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, mental health, etc.

[View the new site >>](#)

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