



## Tool Can Significantly Reduce Pediatric Prescription Errors

---

**Combining computerized physician order entry with a clinical decision support system is beneficial**

Aug 11, 2009

TUESDAY, Aug. 11 (HealthDay News) -- In pediatric intensive care units, computerized physician order entry and a clinical decision support system that limits doses by weight may significantly reduce rates of medical prescription errors and potential adverse drug events, according to a study published online Aug. 10 in *Pediatrics*.

Gili Kadmon, M.D., of Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel in Petach Tikva, and colleagues reviewed 5,000 medical orders to assess the change in prescription error rates with the introduction of computerized physician order entry with and without a clinical decision support system.

The researchers found that computerized physician order entry implementation was associated with only a slight overall decrease in medical prescription errors (from 5.5 to 5.3 percent) and the emergence of new types of medical prescription errors. They found that the addition of a clinical decision support system resulted in a significant decrease in medical prescription errors (to 3.8 percent) and an even more dramatic decrease after a change in prescription authorization (to 0.7 percent). They observed a similar pattern over time in decreased rates of potential adverse drug events.

"Physicians should be aware that the newly implemented computerized systems can themselves lead to new types of medication errors," the authors conclude. "Therefore, constant surveillance with a search for innovative solutions is necessary."

[Abstract](#)

[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2009 [ScoutNews, LLC](#). All rights reserved.