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Busiest EDs Offer Patients Best Survival Rate

An analysis of US hospitals finds that, compared with the least busy, the busiest emergency departments (EDs) give the best chance of surviving, especially to patients whose condition is life-threatening, according to a July [report](#) published in the *Annals of Emergency Medicine*.

According to the report, emergency patients had a 10 percent lower chance of dying if they went to one of the busiest EDs than if they went to one of the least busy.

The chance of survival was even greater for patients with life-threatening conditions. For instance, the risk of dying with sepsis was 26 percent lower at the busiest compared with the least busy EDs, even after taking a range of patient and hospital variables into account. For patients with lung failure, the chance of dying was 22 percent lower. The chances of dying differed even for heart attack patients, the report stated.

The report estimated that if all emergency patients received the kind of treatment delivered by the busiest EDs, 24,000 fewer patients would die.

The data from the study, which covered 17.5 million patients attending nearly 3,000 hospitals across the US, came from the Nationwide Inpatient Sample database compiled by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

The report concluded that if all emergency patients received the kind of treatment delivered by the busiest EDs, 24,000 fewer patients would die each year, that with half of hospital patients now coming in through the ED, there is value in sharing the lessons and data from the best-performing hospitals.

Save the Date

Please note: While the information below is a list of planned programs for 2014, at this time not all programs can be accessed online for registration.

Sept. 18 Adverse Drug Events

Sept. 22 Annual Leadership Summit

Sept. 29 Geriatric Emergency Department Guidelines

[Click here to register.](#)