Society of Hospital Medicine
Hospitalists. Transforming Healthcare.
Revolutionizing Patient Care.

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www.hospitalmedicine.org

The Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) is the largest organization in the nation representing hospitalists and the practice of hospital medicine.

What is hospital medicine and who are hospitalists?

The hospital medicine team is comprised of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, registered nurses and practice administrators who engage in clinical care, teaching, research and administration. In addition to expertise managing acutely ill and hospitalized patients, hospital medicine practitioners also increasingly work in post-acute care settings. With a systems-level perspective, the team works to enhance the performance of institutions and the healthcare system overall.

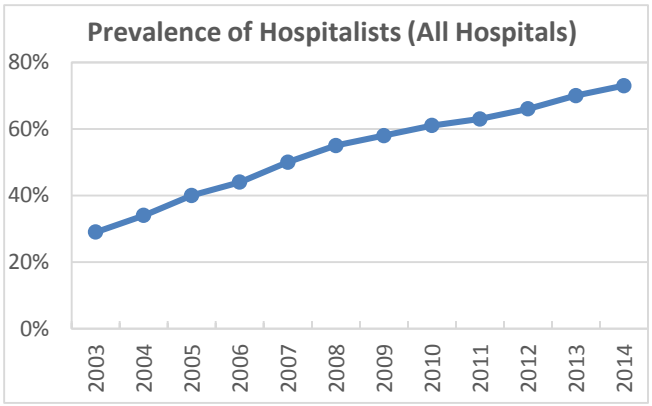
Physician **hospitalists** specialize in the practice of hospital medicine: providing comprehensive medical care for patients in hospitals and other institutional settings. Hospitalists are typically trained in general internal medicine (76.7%), but may receive training in general pediatrics (6.3%), family practice (9.2%), or other medical disciplines (7.8%).

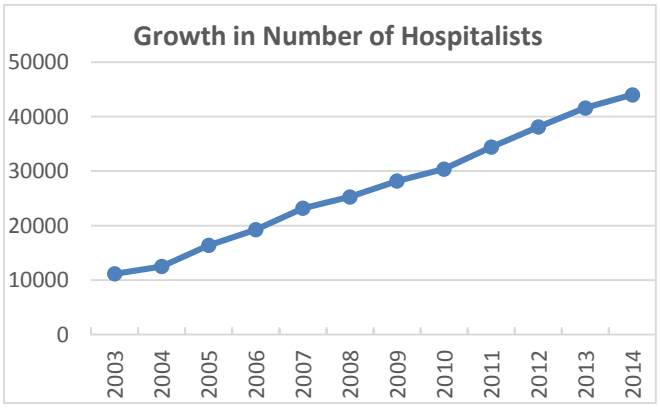
Key clinical interests for hospitalists include:

Inpatient & Observation Care	*Care Transitions & Coordination*	*Reducing Hospital Acquired Infections*
Preventing Complications	*Medication Reconciliation*	*Systems & Process Improvement*

About half (49.8%) of hospitalists are employed by hospitals or health systems. Other employment models include multistate management companies (26.9%), private hospitalist-only groups (4.3%), universities/medical schools (10.5%), private multi-specialty or primary care group (5.6%) or other models (2.9%).

Hospital medicine is a rapidly growing field, both in prevalence in hospitals and in number of physician hospitalists:





Value of Hospitalists and Hospital Medicine

Hospital Medicine represents the future of health care. The field is poised to play a major role in providing leadership and energy as healthcare is reshaped in the coming years. According to recent studies:

- For most measures of patient satisfaction, more care by hospitalists was associated with improved patient-centered care. (*Journal of Hospital Medicine*, January 2013)Teamwork across disciplines in the hospital, often coordinated by a hospitalist, improves the transition from hospital to home for older patients with fewer rehospitalizations and reducing morbidity rates and healthcare costs while positively impacting quality of life and discharge satisfaction. (*The Journal of American Geriatrics*, September 2009)
- Hospitalists at a community hospital reduced the risk of patient readmissions by 41.8% and increased coordination of care by 13.2%. (*Human Resource Management*, Winter 2008)

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How Hospitalists are Changing Healthcare

Hospitalists are uniquely positioned in the healthcare system, caring for patients throughout their stays in and transitions out of hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and other critical healthcare institutions.

Policy Priorities

SHM works on policies and programs that seek to improve quality, safety, and efficiency, while increasing the cost-effectiveness of the healthcare system. Major areas of current focus include:

- Rewarding Value—Value Based Purchasing and Innovative Payment Models
- Improving Quality—Quality Measurement and Accountability Programs
- Increasing Efficiency and Transparency—Health Information Technology (HIT) and Meaningful Use

For more information about SHM's policy work, visit www.hospitalmedicine.org/advocacy

Commitment to Patient Care and Improving Quality
As a central feature of their practice, hospitalists are actively engaged in quality and systems improvement with the goal of more coordinated, patient-centered care. SHM's Center for Hospital Innovation and Improvement oversees a portfolio of comprehensive quality improvement initiatives for hospitalists and their institutions. It leads and participates in numerous national projects focused on improving the quality of care for hospitalized patients.

Mentored Implementation in Quality Improvement
The recipient of the 2011 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award for Innovation at the National Level, SHM's mentored implementation programs pair national experts (physician mentors) with hospital staff to help implement a specific quality intervention at their hospital. These programs have been utilized in more than 350 hospitals and have touched tens of thousands of patient lives.

Areas of SHM's mentored implementation programs include:

- **Care Transitions:** *Project BOOST (Better Outcomes by Optimizing Safe Transitions)* ***www.hospitalmedicine.org/BOOST***
- **Glycemic Control:** *Glycemic Control Mentored Implementation (GCMI) Program* ***www.hospitalmedicine.org/GCMI***
- **Improving Handoffs of Care for Patients:** I-PASS Mentored Implementation Program

In addition, the Center works on a number of other initiatives on clinical topics and care processes, including:

- **Improving Medication Reconciliation***: Multi-Center Medication Reconciliation QI Study (MARQUIS)* www.hospitalmedicine.org/marquis
- **Promoting Informed conversations between patients and providers**: ABIM's *Choosing Wisely® Campaign* www.hospitalmedicine.org/choosingwisely
- **Deep Vein Thombosis and Venous Thromboembolism:** DVT &VTE Awareness http://www.hospitalmedicine.org/VTE