

Working with a scribe improves physician satisfaction

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(HealthDay)—Working with a scribe significantly improves physicians'

overall satisfaction, satisfaction with chart quality and accuracy, and charting efficiency, according to a study published online Sept. 11 in the *Annals of Family Medicine*.

Risha Gidwani, Dr.P.H., from Stanford University in California, and colleagues randomized physicians in an academic [family medicine](#) clinic to one week with a scribe and then one week without a scribe for the course of one year. Scribes drafted all relevant documentation, which was reviewed by a physician before attestation and signing. Physicians performed all charting duties when working without a scribe.

The researchers found that [scribes](#) significantly improved all aspects of physician satisfaction, including overall satisfaction with the clinic (odds ratio [OR], 10.75), having enough face time with patients (OR, 3.71), time spent charting (OR, 86.09), chart quality (OR, 7.25), and chart accuracy (OR, 4.61). Scribes did not affect [patient satisfaction](#). They increased the proportion of charts closed within 48 hours (OR, 1.18; P = 0.028).

"Scribes appear to be a promising strategy to improve health care efficiency and reduce physician burnout," conclude the authors.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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