

Wrong Drug Events Across Pennsylvania Healthcare Facilities: A Systematic Analysis of Medication Pairs, Class Patterns, and Clinical Safety Implications



An analysis of events reported to the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Reporting System (PA-PSRS) revealed that **wrong drug events** (WDEs) can cause serious patient harm.

WDEs occur when a patient receives a medication **different** from the one intended.



WDEs frequently involve medications within the same class, highlighting the risk of **confusion due to shared stems in their names**.



Insulin was identified as the most frequently reported medication class, accounting for **more than 10%** of all reported medications involved in WDEs.

WDEs can cause serious patient harm from:

- Omission or delay of a necessary medication.
- Administration of an unintended and/or contraindicated medication.
- Other deviation from the intended treatment such as wrong dose and route.