



Transforming the Safety of Healthcare with Health Information Technology

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The safety of healthcare is not as good as it should be. Dr. Bates will begin by reviewing some of the evidence about this from the U.S., and then will discuss the results of the IBEAS study, which evaluated 5 countries in Central and South America. He'll then discuss how HIT can be used to improve safety, beginning with medications, and then with respect to managing transitions, handling abnormal lab results and then newer approaches to detect decompensating patients. He'll then examine what some of the next opportunities to improve safety are likely to be, dividing these into benefits that may come from technical advances, sociotechnical advances, crossing care settings and improving communications. He'll close by hypothesizing about what it will take to transform the safety of care.