Computerized provider order entry (CPOE) is defined as a computer based system that allows physicians to enter medical orders. It is recognized as an important component for improving patient safety and practitioner performance \(^1\). The implementation of CPOE is challenging and one of the reasons that lie behind this is that CPOE significantly changes providers’ workflow. Medication work in inpatient settings is a dynamic process that needs a high level of collaboration, and involves different hospital care providers, particularly nurses and physicians. Therefore, their involvement and cooperation may be critical for successful implementation of any information system \(^2\), little is known about this topic in Saudi Arabia and no published studies were found.

**Introduction**

The study showed that a high percentage of the nurses were positive regarding CPOE support of proper nurse-physician communication in the medication order process (Figure 1). Most of the respondents (72.6%) agreed that overall, CPOE supports the medication work process, while only (5.5%) reported that it doesn’t support the work process (Figure 2). The study also found that there were significant differences between nurses’ perceptions of CPOE support of proper nurse-physician medication and years of experience and the departments they came from.

![Figure 1: Nurses perceptions of CPOE supporting proper nurse-physician communication](image1.png)

- Strongly Agree: 11%
- Agree: 34%
- Neutral: 50%
- Disagree: 5%

**Results**

![Figure 2: Nurses overall perception of CPOE supporting work process](image2.png)

- Yes: 20%
- I am Not Sure: 6%
- No: 74%

**Conclusion**

This study has found that nurses generally had a positive perception for CPOE features supporting their workflow and supporting nurse-physician communication. A high percentage of nurses reported the need to contact physicians frequently after the implementation of CPOE, which showed that CPOE didn’t fully support the nurse’s medication work. Since the system had only been recently implemented at the time of this study (only a few months), a similar study is needed after the CPOE system is fully implemented and nurses are better adapted to the system. This will provide an opportunity to compare the results with this study’s findings. Further investigations utilizing different methods (e.g. activity analysis) are strongly recommended to provide more definitive results.

**References**