



## SIIM: CDS guides appropriate pediatric head CT orders

By Erik L. Ridley, AuntMinnie staff writer

June 2, 2018 -- NATIONAL HARBOR, MD - A clinical decision-support (CDS) algorithm can help reduce the percentage of inappropriate pediatric head CT studies being ordered in the emergency department (ED), according to a study presented on Friday at the Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM) annual meeting.

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Researchers from Einstein Healthcare Network implemented the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN) algorithm for guiding minor pediatric head trauma decision-making into their institution's electronic medical record (EMR). After this change, the percentage of appropriate orders for CT studies in these patients more than doubled to reach nearly 80%, they found.

"The increased adherence to the PECARN algorithm by its placement in the EMR also may ultimately decrease the number of head CTs ordered," said presenter [Dr. Bryan Kang](#).

### Radiation exposure risk