Adverse drug events (ADEs) are the most common nonsurgical adverse events that occur in hospitals. New data from all payers in 32 States in HCUP show characteristics of the four most frequent specific causes of ADEs originating in the hospital in 2011.

The four most common causes of in-hospital ADEs—rates per 10,000 discharges

- Steroids: 20
- Antibiotics: 13
- Opiates and narcotics: 11
- Anticoagulants: 7

Rates of the four most common in-hospital ADEs per 10,000 discharges

- **By patient age**
  - <1: 3
  - 1–17: 34
  - 18–44: 30
  - 45–64: 65
  - 65+: 75

- **By payer**
  - Medicare: 75
  - Medicaid: 28
  - Private insurance: 41
  - Uninsured: 40

- **By hospital region**
  - West: 44
  - Midwest: 76
  - Northeast: 53
  - South: 42

Source: Statistical Brief #164: Characteristics of Adverse Drug Events Originating During the Hospital Stay, 2011 (http://hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/statbriefs.jsp)