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### Missouri Hospital Association Reports Improvements

(AP) - The Missouri Hospital Association says there has been a decline in the number of hospital admissions for preventable issues.

The association says that between 2003 and 2013 the number of preventable hospital admissions fell 18.8 percent.

Preventable hospitalizations are defined as conditions for which good outpatient care could potentially have avoided the need for hospital care. The definition also includes conditions for which early intervention could have prevented complications.

Despite the overall improvement, the hospital association says there were several conditions for which Missouri saw an increase in preventable hospital admissions. Those include hypertension, short-term complications from diabetes, asthma in young adults and urinary tract infections.

Associated Press