



2024 International Congress
on Integrative Medicine & Health

APRIL 9-13 • CLEVELAND, OH, USA

'First, Do No Harm'

**THE CHIROPRACTOR'S PERSPECTIVE
ON PATIENT SAFETY FOR
INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE AND HEALTH**

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Why is the WFC's focus on patient safety so important?

Patient safety task force chair, Katie Pohlman explains the WFC's latest research initiative.

'What is patient safety?' Patient safety is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as "the prevention of errors and adverse effects to patients associated with health care" and more comprehensively "a framework of organized activities that creates cultures, processes, procedures, behaviors, technologies and environments in health care that consistently and sustainably lower risks, reduce the occurrence of avoidable harm, make error less likely and reduce impact of harm when it does occur".

Within all major healthcare organizations, patient safety initiatives exist, which include, but is not limited to, the WHO (World Health Organization): [Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-2030 \(who.int\)](#); Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); [PSNet](#); Healthcare Excellence Canada; [Canadian Patient Safety Institute](#); NHS (National Health Services): [The NHS Patient Safety Strategy](#), and the seminal report written by the IOM (Institutes of Medicine - now the National Academy of Medicine-NAM): [To Err Is Human](#).

In May, the WFC Board unanimously voted to support the Global Patient Safety (GPS) Task Force. By doing so, the chiropractic profession has taken a clear stance to unite us with global organizations to promote safe patient care.

So, how is patient safety relevant for the chiropractic profession? We often read of numerous avoidable errors made in hospitals, but as chiropractors, we don't have prescription-related or surgical errors that occur in these environments.

Our environment presents us with different challenges that can impact care with some more profound effects than others, but all constitute a part of our patient safety culture. These challenges



Dr Katie Pohlman

include communication, diagnostic errors, and inappropriate care plans – all contribute as mild, moderate and serious adverse events.

At the heart of all patient safety initiatives are effective communication skills, as communication has been found to be a component of the majority of patient safety incidents. Effective communication is also important to empower patients to detect and report adverse events.

Beyond minimizing errors and engaging patients, efficient communication skills are also critical to disclosure interactions and collective healing, which have been shown to minimize litigation and which are key parts of a supportive, transparent patient safety culture.

Other patient safety concerns that are relevant to chiropractors are diagnostic errors and



Global Patient Safety Task Force

AGENDA

Background

- **Define:**
 - **Patient Safety**
 - **Adverse Events**


- **Patient Safety**

Culture

- **History**
- **Need**

- **Frameworks**

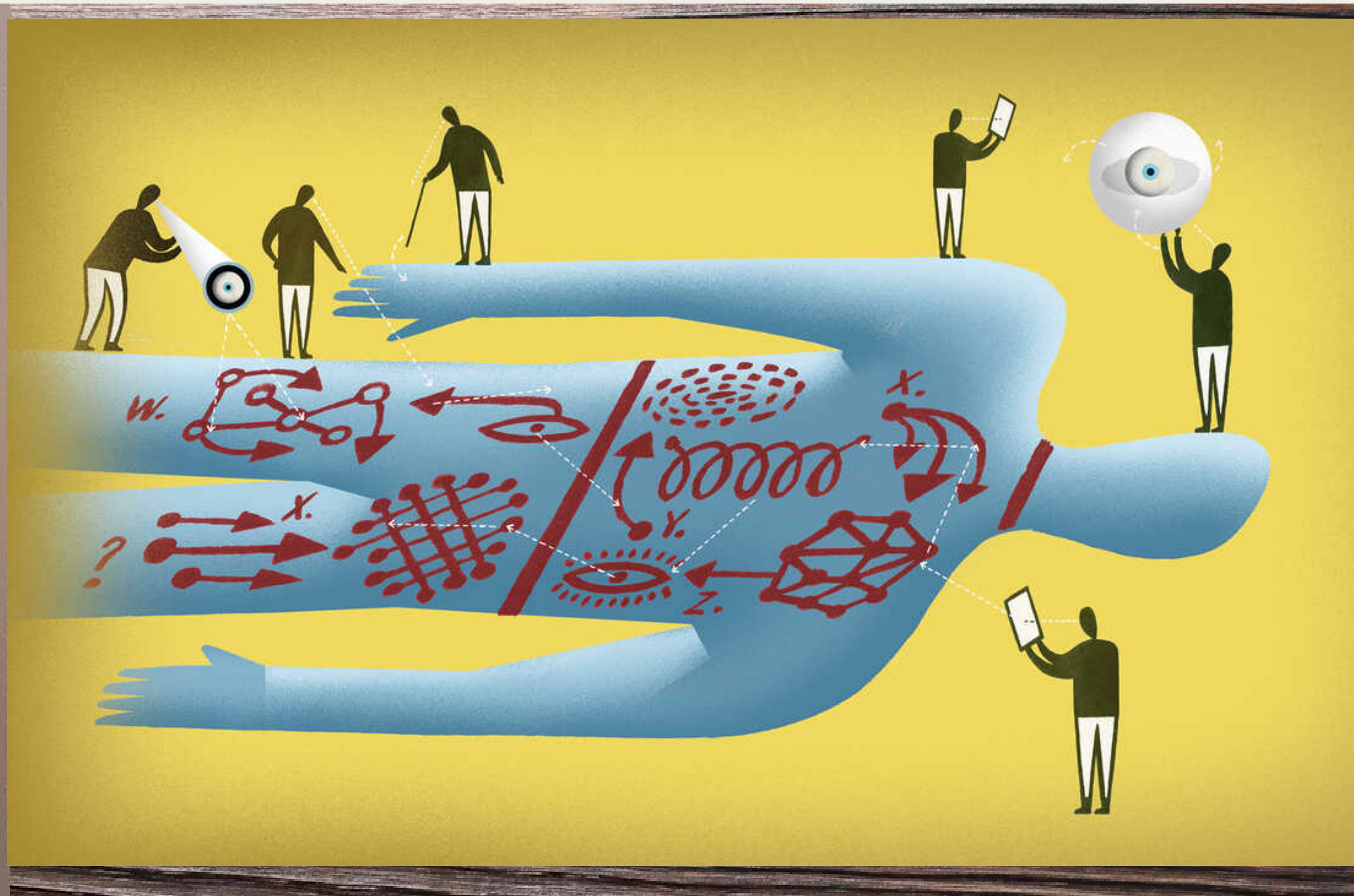
- **WHO Global Patient Safety Action Plan**

A black and white photograph of a classical statue of Hippocrates, the Greek physician, standing outdoors. The statue is shown from the waist up, wearing a draped garment. It is positioned on the left side of the image, with a dark background and some foliage visible.

“Primum non nocere”
First, do no harm!
- Hippocrates

P a t i e n t

S a f e t y





WHAT IS AN ADVERSE EVENT?

 OPEN ACCESS  PEER-REVIEWED

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Definition and classification for adverse events following spinal and peripheral joint manipulation and mobilization: A scoping review

Martha Funabashi , Lindsay M. Gorrell, Katherine A. Pohlman, Andrea Bergna, Nicola R. Heneghan

Published: July 15, 2022 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0270671>

Term	Definition
<p>Adverse event</p> <p><i>See also accident, adverse drug event, adverse drug reaction, adverse patient occurrence adverse reaction, adverse serious event, bad outcome, clinical incident, close call, critical incident, dangerous situation, drug misadventure, error, event, harm, hazard, iatrogenic, incident, injury, life threatening adverse drug experience, medical error, medical injury, medical mishap, medical mistake, medication error, misadventure, mistake, near miss, no harm event, patient safety, patient safety incident (incident), potential adverse event, potential event, preparation error, prescribing error, preventable adverse drug event, preventable adverse event, preventable death, preventable error, reportable occurrence, sentinel event, serious event, serious outcome, slip, unexpected adverse drug experience, unpreventable adverse drug event, unpreventable adverse event</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An injury that was caused by medical management or complication instead of the underlying disease and that resulted in prolonged hospitalization or disability at the time of discharge from medical care, or both. ^{23 see also 24} 2. An undesired patient outcome that may or may not be the result of an error. ²⁵ 3. An event or omission arising during clinical care and causing physical or psychological injury to a patient. ²⁶ 4. A negative consequence of care that results in unintended injury or illness which may or may not have been preventable. ²⁷ 5. An injury that was caused by medical management and that results in measurable disability. ²⁸ 6. An injury caused by medical management (rather than by the underlying disease) which prolongs hospitalization, produces a disability at the time of discharge, or both; ... AEs are caused by drug complications, wound infections, and technical complications, and those due to negligence [caused by] diagnostic mishaps, therapeutic mishaps, and events occurring in the emergency room. ³ 7. An untoward, undesirable, and usually unanticipated event, such as death of a patient, an employee, or a visitor in a health care organization. Incidents such as patient falls or improper administration of medications are also considered adverse events even if there is no permanent effect on the patient. ⁸ 8. Adverse events are untoward incidents, therapeutic misadventures, iatrogenic injuries, or other adverse occurrences directly associated with care or services provided within the jurisdiction of a medical center, outpatient clinic, or other facility. Adverse events may result from acts of commission or omission. ²⁹ 9. An undesirable event occurring in the course of medical care that produces a measurable change in patient status. ³⁰ 10. An event that results in unintended harm to the patient by an act of commission or omission rather than by the underlying disease or condition of the patient. ³¹ 11. An injury resulting from a medical intervention and not due to the underlying condition of the patient. ^{1 see also 15,19,22} 12. An unexpected and undesired incident directly associated with the care or services provided to the patient. ⁵ 13. An incident which results in harm to a patient. ¹⁰⁰

■ WHO:
 “Conceptual Framework for the International Classification for Patient Safety”

Technical Report, 2019

PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE:

SMALL PICTURE



Recognize, Respond
to and Disclose
Patient Safety
Incidents

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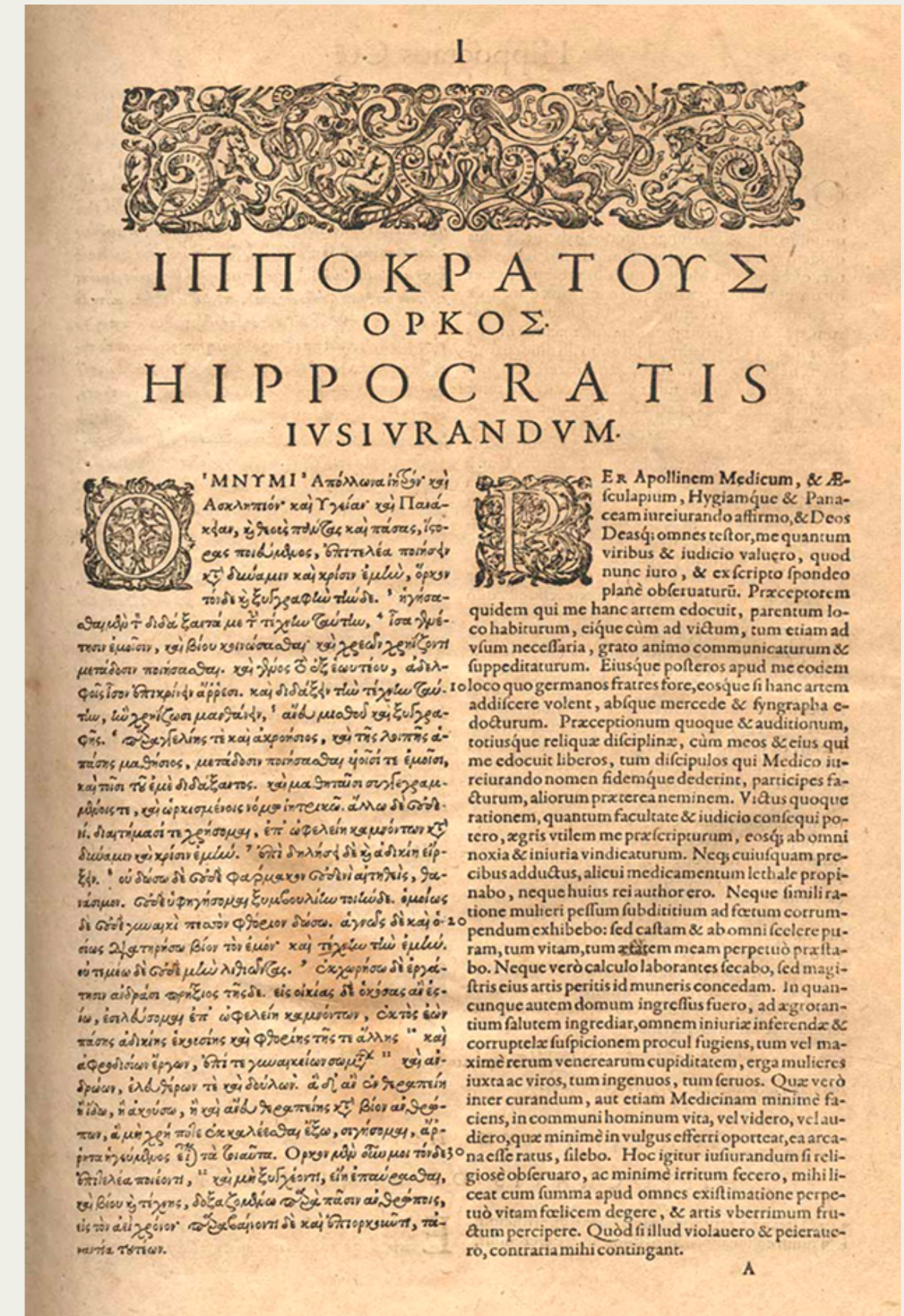
PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE:

BIG PICTURE



PATIENT SAFETY:

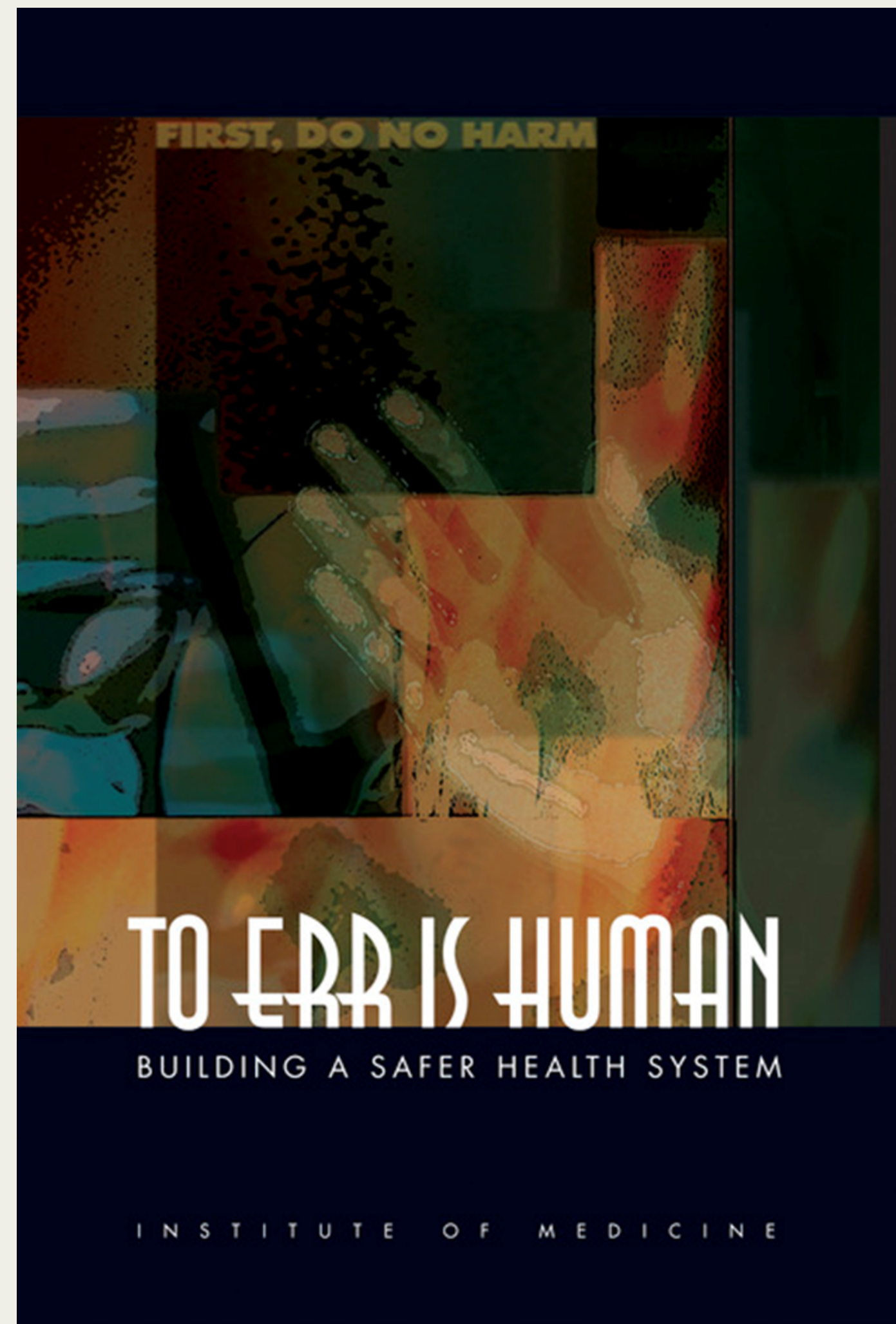
WHERE IT STARTED



PATIENT
SAFETY:

INCREASING
ATTENTION

1999



PATIENT
SAFETY
CULTURE:

DOES IT
STILL
MATTER?

**JOURNAL OF
PATIENT SAFETY**

Articles & Issues ▾ In The News For Authors ▾ Journal Info ▾

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

The Relationship Between Patient Safety Culture and Patient Outcomes
A Systematic Review

DiCuccio, Margaret Hardt RN, MSN

[Author Information](#)

Journal of Patient Safety 11(3):p 135-142, September 2015. | DOI: 10.1097/PTS.0000000000000058

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PATIENT
SAFETY
CULTURE:

DOES IT
STILL
MATTER?

Vikan et al. *BMC Health Services Research* (2023) 23:300
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-023-09332-8>

BMC Health Services Research

RESEARCH

Open Access

The association between patient safety culture and adverse events – a scoping review



Magnhild Vikan^{1*}, Arvid Steinar Haugen^{1,2}, Ann Kristin Bjørnnes¹, Berit Taraldsen Valeberg^{1,3}, Ellen Catharina Tveter Deilkås⁴ and Stein Ove Danielsen¹

PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE:

DOES IT STILL MATTER?

Journal of Operations Management 27 (2009) 390–404



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jom



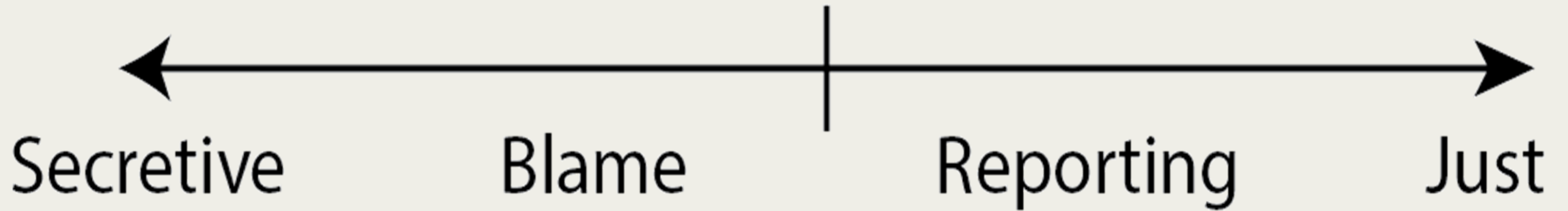
The patient safety chain: Transformational leadership's effect on patient safety culture, initiatives, and outcomes

Kathleen L. McFadden^{a,*}, Stephanie C. Henagan^b, Charles R. Gowen III^b

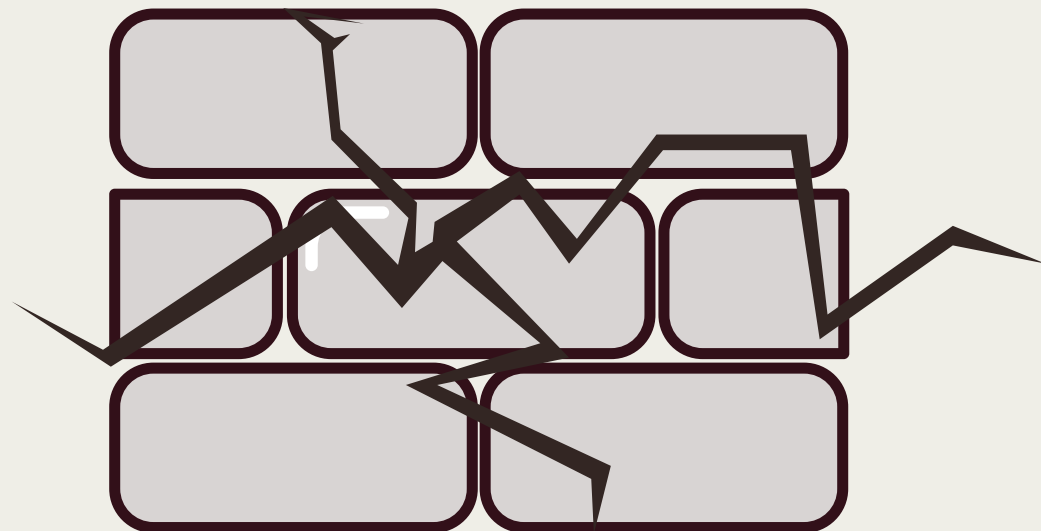
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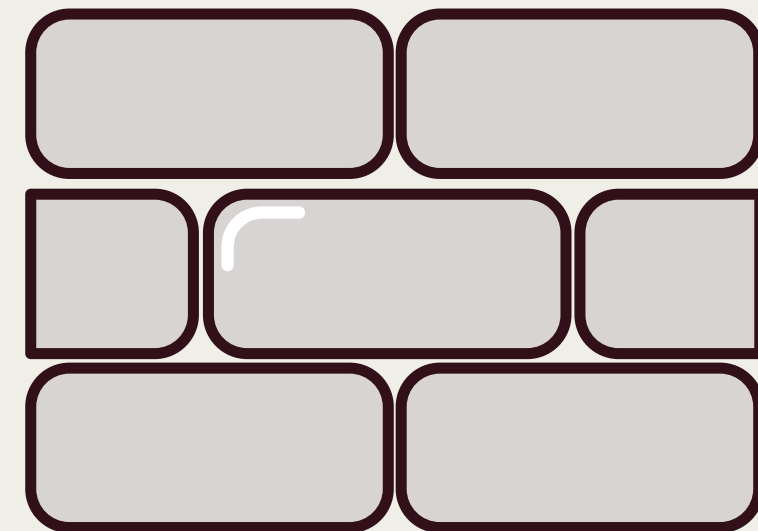
Safety Culture

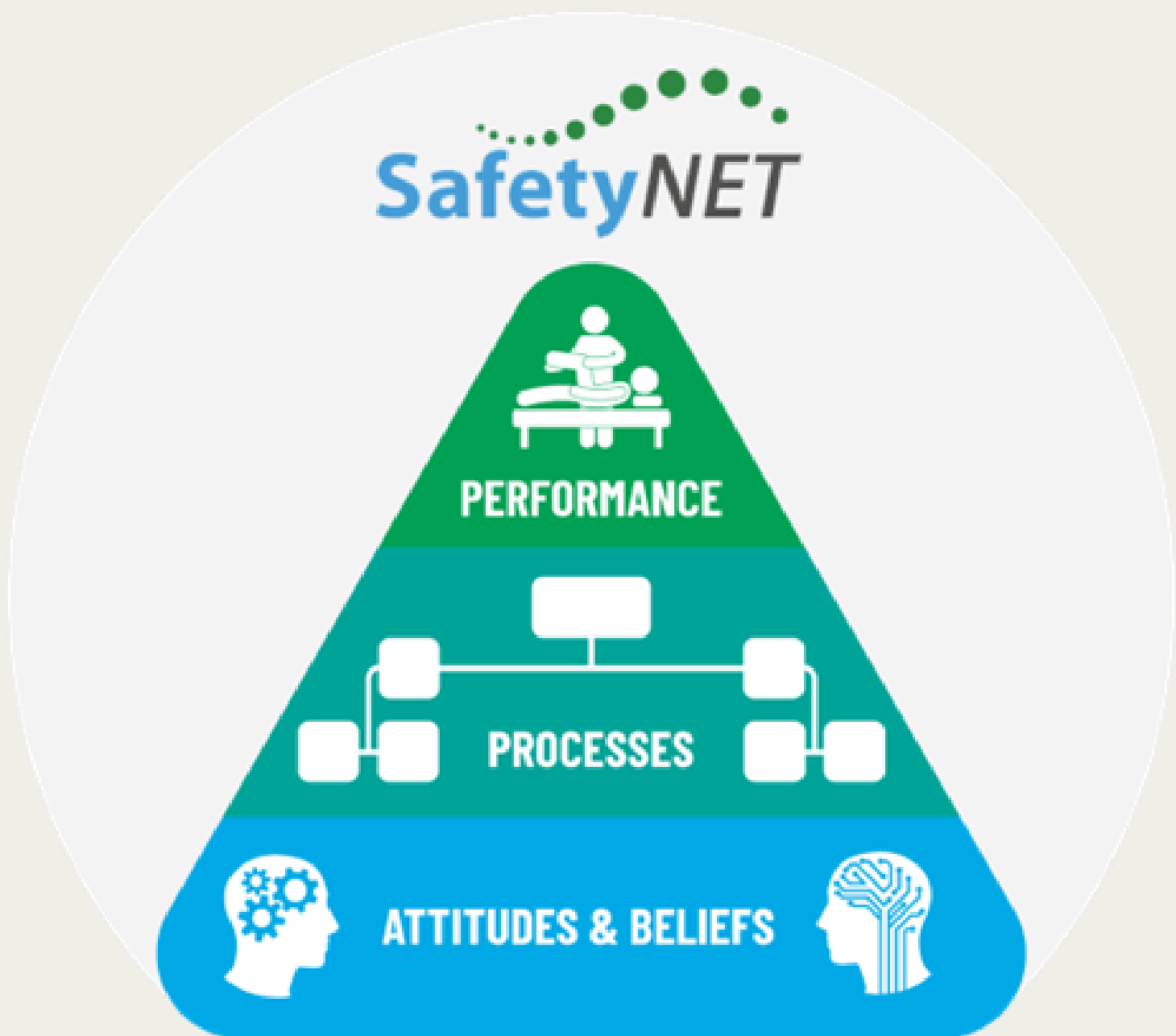


Weak

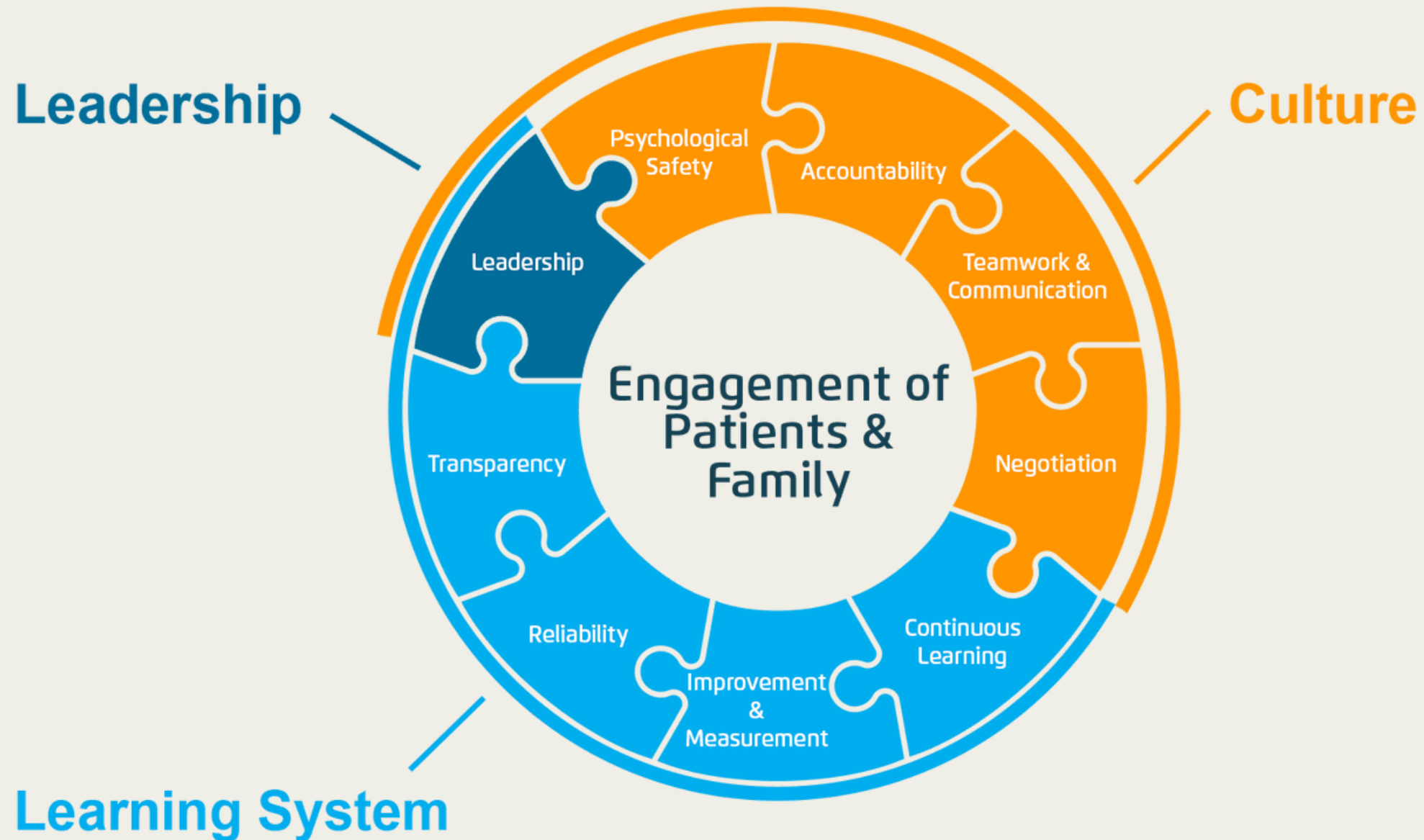


Robust





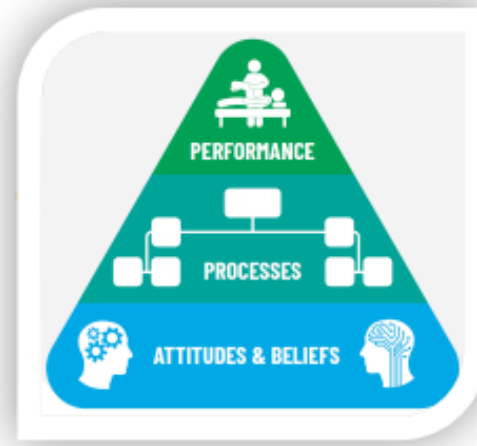
Framework for Safe & Reliable Care



Based on <https://www.safeandreliaablecare.com/blog/2016/11/29/s-r-sociotechnical-framework-ihl-minicourse>

From: Frankel A, Haraden C, Federico F, Lenoci-Edwards J. A Framework for Safe, Reliable, and Effective Care. White Paper. Cambridge, MA: Institute for Healthcare Improvement and Safe & Reliable Healthcare; 2017. (Available at ihi.org)

Safe and Reliable Culture Model



Value



Tipping Point =
Psychological Safety

Unmindful

Who cares as long as we're not caught *chronically complacent.*

Reactive

Safety is important. We do a lot every time we have an accident.

Systematic

We have systems in place to manage all hazards.

Proactive

Anticipating and preventing problems before they occur; Comfort speaking up.

Generative

Safety is how we do business around here *constantly vigilant and transparent.*

Credit: Adapted from 2018 Health Catalyst: A Framework for High Reliability Organizations in Healthcare

SUPPORT SYSTEM AND HUMAN RESILIENCE:
Ability to anticipate, cope, recover and learn.
HELP PEOPLE SUCCEED.

SAFETY I

FACTORS WEAKENING SAFETY

- Unsuccessful actions
- Risks
- Errors

INDIVIDUALS AND ERRORS IN FOCUS

- "Bad Apple Theory"
- "Find the weakest link and throw them away"
- Latent systemic failures remain in system

= OLD THINKING



SAFETY II

FACTORS MAINTAINING SAFETY

- Things working well
- Understanding human variation
- Limited resources

ORGANISATION, SYSTEM, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT IN FOCUS

- Several contributing factors behind the cases
- Learning is main goal of investigation
- Human error is starting point for improvement
– not the conclusion

= NEW THINKING



**Patient
Safety**



**World Health
Organization**

GLOBAL PATIENT SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2021–2030

**Towards eliminating avoidable
harm in health care**

The framework includes seven strategic objectives, which can be achieved through 35 specific strategies:



1
Make zero avoidable harm to patients a state of mind and a rule of engagement in the planning and delivery of health care everywhere

2
Build high-reliability health systems and health organizations that protect patients daily from harm

3
Assure the safety of every clinical process

4
Engage and empower patients and families to help and support the journey to safer health care

5
Inspire, educate, skill and protect health workers to contribute to the design and delivery of safe care systems

6
Ensure a constant flow of information and knowledge to drive the mitigation of risk, a reduction in levels of avoidable harm, and improvements in the safety of care

7
Develop and sustain multisectoral and multinational synergy, partnership and solidarity to improve patient safety and quality of care



Reflections on strategic objective:

- After reviewing the text, discuss as a group.
 - Be prepared to describe what your discussions revolved around.
- Then, discuss what actions can be taken to advance the identified strategic objectives?
 - Immediate Action Plans
 - Long-term Plans



REFLECTION

THANK

YOU!