



# COOK COUNTY HEALTH & HOSPITALS SYSTEM

CCHHS Board of Directors  
Quality and Patient Safety Committee  
**Quality and Reliability in Health Care**

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# Quality: A Definition

The degree to which health services for individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge

- Institute of Medicine, Crossing the Quality Chasm, 2002



# Safety versus Quality

- Quality- addresses the intended results of the health care system
- Safety- is concerned with the many ways in which the system can fail to function
- **Both are important in improving care**



# Quality from a Patient's Perspective

- 'Help me' **Evidence based, high quality practice**
- 'Don't hurt me' **Prevent medical errors & adverse events**
- 'Be nice to me' **Treat me with respect and humanity**

Adapted from Don Berwick, MD



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# Dimensions of Quality

- What are the components of quality?
- IOM listed and defined the dimensions of quality in health care
- This process also summarized research findings in contributors to quality

Institute of Medicine (IOM): Crossing the Quality Chasm, 2002



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# Safe

- Patients should not be harmed by the care that is intended to help them
- Safe health care systems reduce risks and hazards attributable to the process of care



# Timely

- Waits and sometimes-harmful delays in care should be reduced both for those who receive care and those who give care
- In most industries timeliness is an important quality metric



# Effective

- Care should be based on scientific knowledge and offered to all who could benefit, and not to those not likely to benefit
- We match the science of medicine to the care we provide





# Efficient

- Care should be given without wasting equipment, supplies, ideas and energy
- Don't allow ideas and suggestions from front line to go to waste



# Equitable

- Care should not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location or socioeconomic status
- Must close the gap in justice in health care



# Patient Centered

- Care should be respectful of and responsive to individual patient preferences, needs and values
- ‘Nothing about me without me’



# Six Dimensions of Quality (and care)

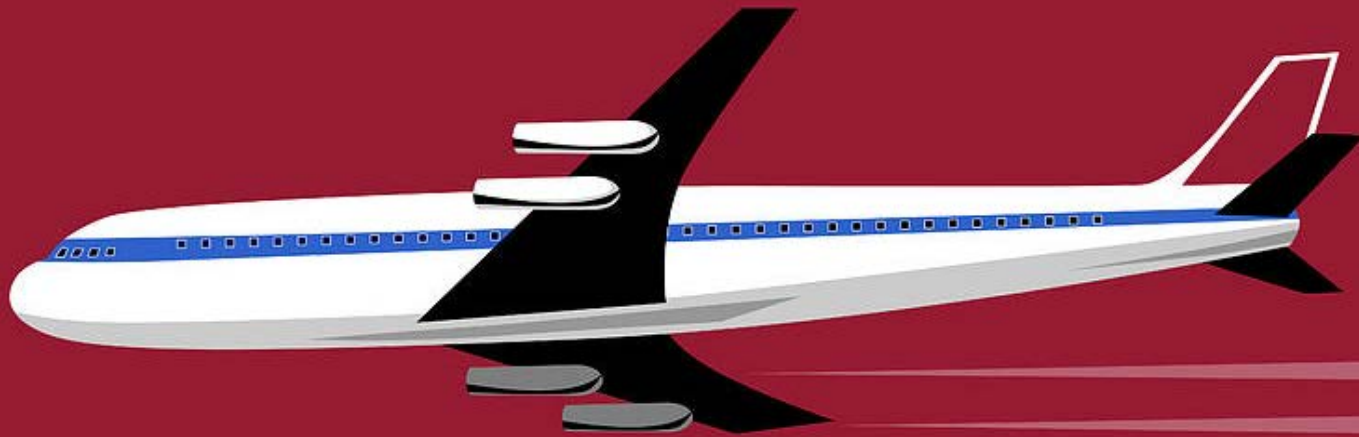
- S: Safe
- T: Timely
- E: Effective
- E: Efficient
- E: Equitable
- P: Patient Centered



# Over 15 Years Later...

**We still see 100,000 deaths annually due to medical care**

Equivalent to one 747 full of passengers



Crashing every other day



# High Reliability

- The 'consistent performance at high levels of safety over long periods of time'
- Ability of organizations to avoid preventable adverse events which might be expected due to hazardous or complex environments
- Examples of high reliability organizations (HROs): nuclear industry, aircraft carriers, airlines, amusement parks



# Reliability – the Challenge

## Application of evidence (effective treatments)

- Evidence is known but not consistently applied
- Over 7,000 patients studied by RAND\*
- 55% received recommended care:
  - Preventive care
  - Acute care
  - Care for chronic conditions

\* McGlynn et al. The Quality of Healthcare Delivered to Adults in the US. NEJM 2003



# Reliability – the Challenge

## Complexity of health care

- 99% error free – sounds good?
- If ‘only’ 1% of 1,000,000 surgical procedures contain an error → 100,000 procedures will be performed with an error
- If ‘only’ 1% of 35,760,000 hospitalized patients experience an error in their care → that is 357,600 medical errors





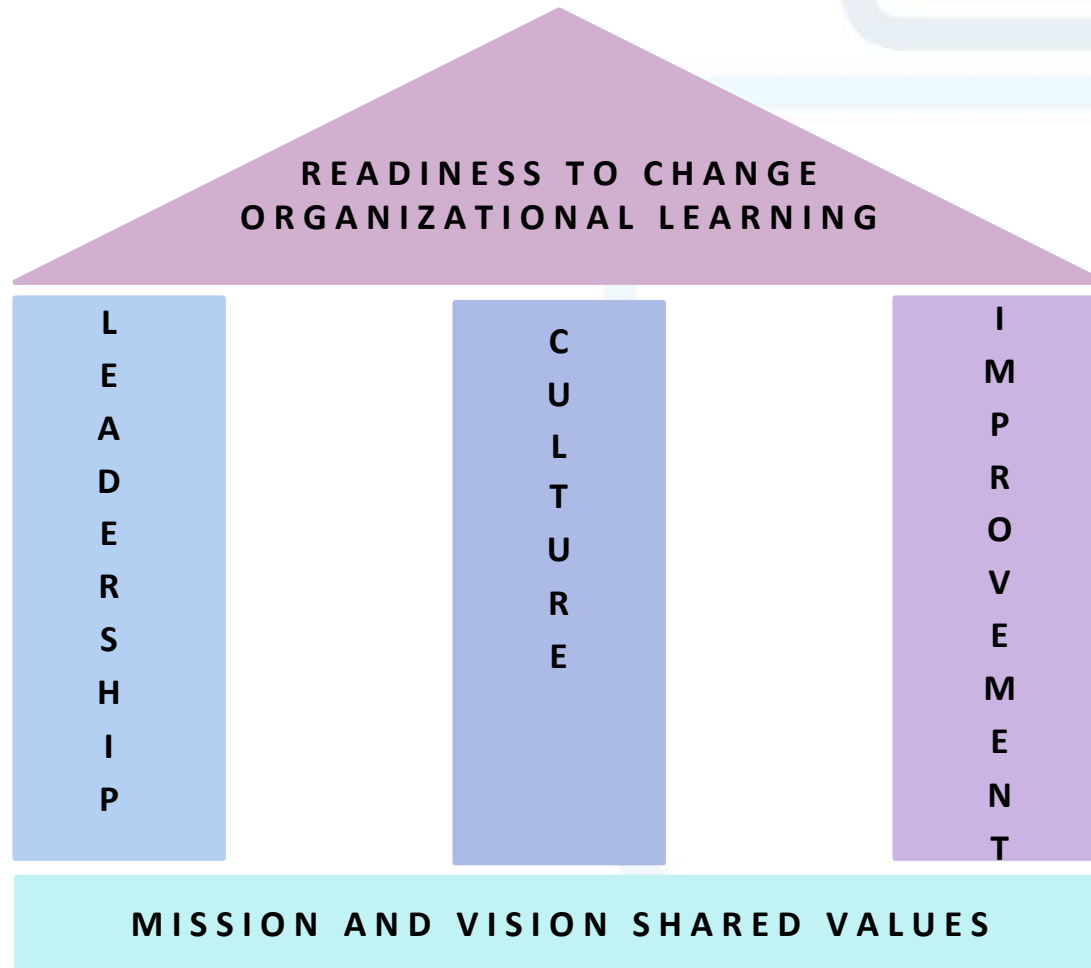
# Reliability – the Challenge

## Complexity of health care, cont'd

- Medication administration → 10 steps from writing orders to administering medications
- Assume each step is 99% accurate
- To perform all 10 steps = 90% accurate



# Building Reliability



# Reliability – Leadership

- Commitment to the process
  - Board of Directors
  - Senior Leadership
  - Physician Leadership
- Prioritize quality and reliability
- Recognize it is a long term process
- Commit to organizational learning



# The Path to High Reliability

Characteristic	Early	Developing	Approaching
<b>Leadership</b>	Focus on regulatory  Little IT support MDs not engaged	CEO leads quality  Measurable QI targets set	Commitment to high reliability  Goal of zero harm
<b>Safety Culture</b>	Culture not assessed  RCAs limited to sentinel events	Initial safety culture measures done  Safety culture is given a high priority	Safety culture established  Near misses reported
<b>Process Improvement</b>	No formal QI/PI process  PI focused on regulatory	Adoption of QI strategy  PI expanded to all adverse events	'Robust' PI with staff training  Patients engaged in QI/PI



# Principles of High Reliability

- Preoccupation with failure
  - Attentiveness to possibility of an error
- Reluctance to simplify
  - Processes are complex, always ‘dig deeper’
- Sensitivity to operations
  - Awareness of what’s working, or not
- Commitment to resilience
  - Ability to handle, learn from adverse events
- Deference to expertise
  - Who really knows the work? (front line staff)

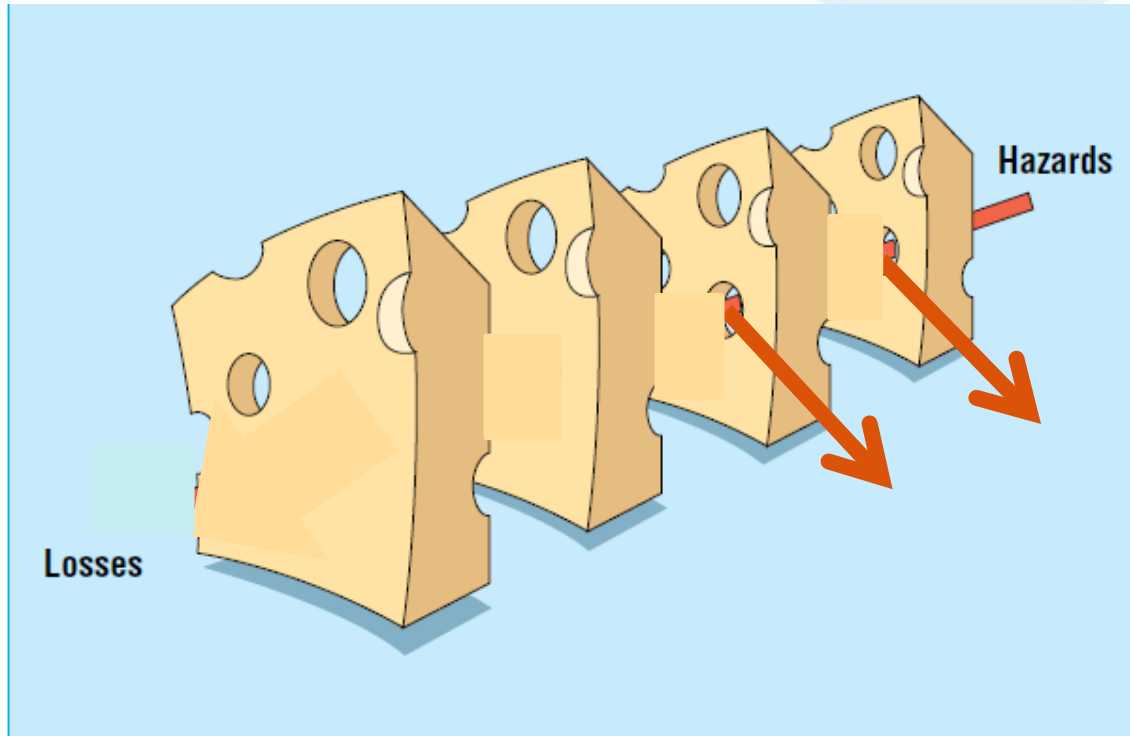


# Reliability – Culture

- Safety culture required to maintain reliability
- **Trust** – front line workers must trust each other to report safety issues
- **Report** – must occur without negative feedback
- **Improve** – management must help fix the problems reported



# Errors: Role of Serial Defenses



The Swiss cheese model of how defences, barriers, and safeguards may be penetrated by an accident trajectory

Reason, J. 2000 BMJ

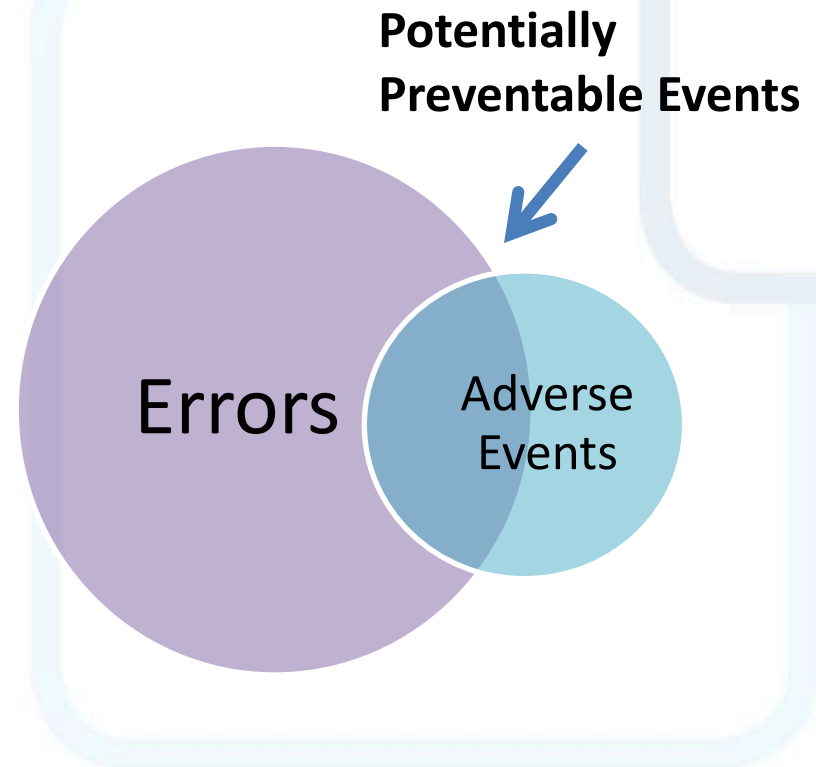


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# Errors versus Adverse Events

- Adverse event – final outcome in chain of events
- Error *may* play a causal role in an adverse event
- Adverse events which result from errors are *potentially* preventable





# Concept of Latent Errors

Patient  
Safety  
Events



} 10%

Latent  
Errors

} 90%

Reporting Latent Errors → Patient Safety



# Culture of Safety



- Reporters must feel safe
- Leaders must commit to correct latent errors
- Increases reporting
- Increases staff satisfaction and retention
- Improves safety and reliability

# Reliability – Process Improvement

- Reliability = Number of actions that achieve the desired result / Total number of actions taken
- $10^{-1}$  = one defect in 10 attempts
- $10^{-2}$  = one defect in 100 attempts and so on

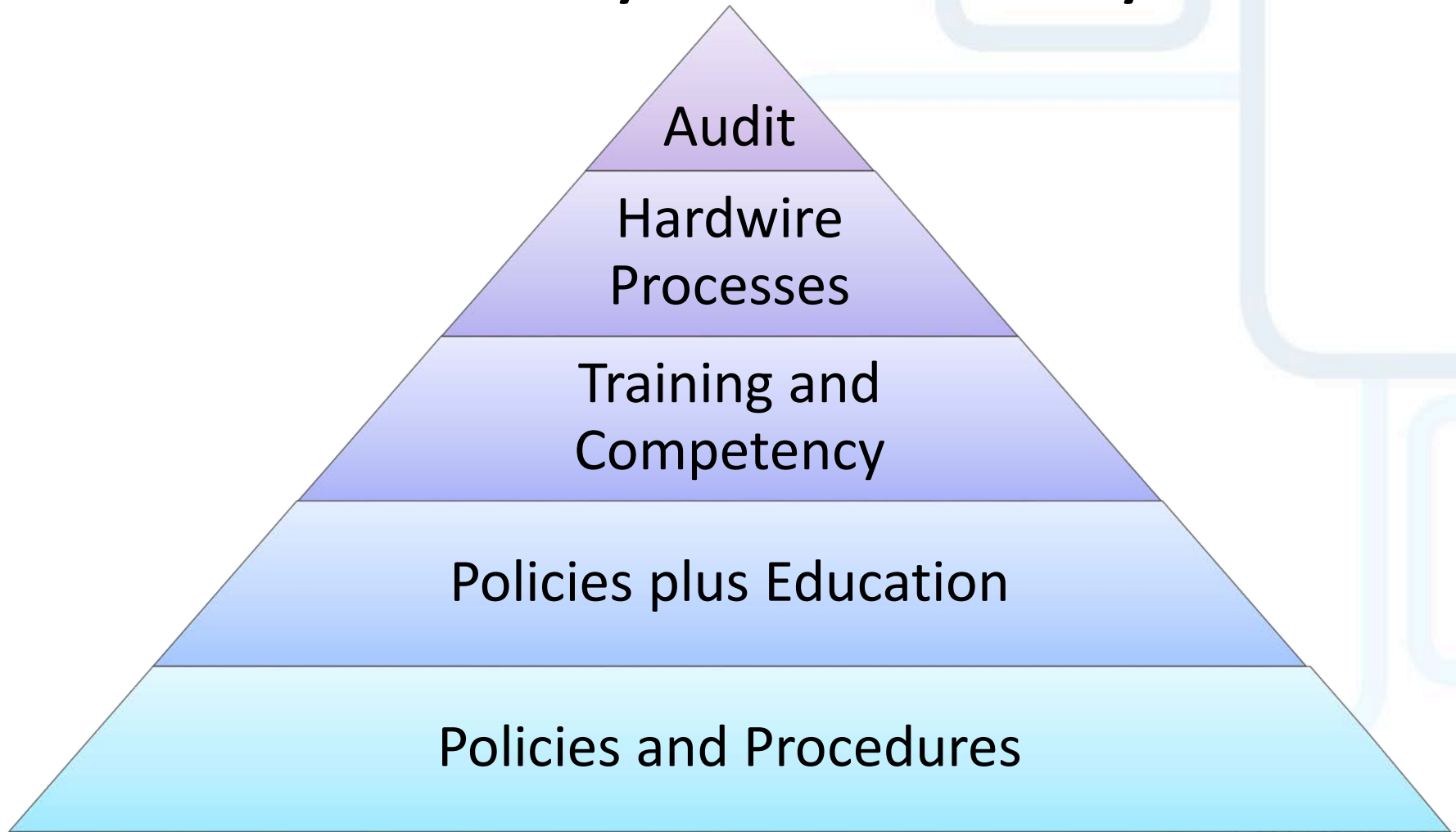


# Reliability – Process Improvement

- Industrial approaches to quality improvement
- Lean approach
- Six sigma
- ‘Robust process improvement (RPI)’
  - Reliable measurement
  - Ascertain root causes
  - Sustain improvement

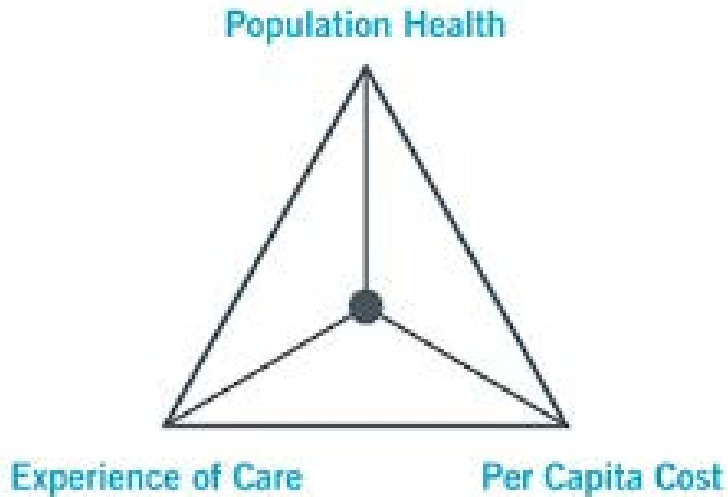


# Hierarchy of Reliability



# IHI Triple Aim

## The IHI Triple Aim



- Experience of care – quality and safety, ‘STEEEP’
- Population health – SES, behavioral factors, prevention, access
- Cost of care – PMPM or equivalent

# National Quality Strategy - 2011

- Builds on the Triple Aim
- Patient experience of care – improve overall quality by making health care more patient-centered, reliable, accessible and safe
- Population health – improve the health of the US population by supporting proven interventions to address behavioral, social and environmental determinants of health in addition to delivering higher quality care
- Cost and value – reduce the cost of quality health care for individuals, families, employers and government



# Summary

- Goals of quality are enunciated in the IOM reports, the Triple Aim and the National Quality Strategy
- Patient experience of care may be summarized in STEEEP
- Reliability strategies are based on leadership, culture of safety and robust process improvement
- Shared values and organizational learning are drivers of quality

