



# Implementing Safety Culture at the Frontline of Healthcare

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MS cohort 2020





# Presentation format

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
(AHRQ)

SBAR

- Situation
- Background
- Assessment
- Recommendation/ Request
  
- Literature review
- Methods
- Conclusion

# Situation

## Healthcare safety

- Interacting systems
- Intricate networks
- Safe designs
- Understanding human factors
- Prevent, recover, mitigate

# Background

## The Impact of Errors

- Up to 98,000 deaths due to medical error each year
- Errors considered a sign of an individual's incompetence or recklessness
- Medical errors, adverse events and near misses go unreported

# Assessment

## The Impact of Errors

- Unreported events are missed opportunities to learn and improve
- Providers may experience adverse consequences

# Recommendation

## Building a Culture of Safety

- Create an environment in which safety is a top priority
- Foster a culture that encourages learning from errors
- Five components:
  - Trust
  - Accountability
  - Identifying unsafe conditions
  - Strengthening systems
  - Assessment



## Safety Culture and Patient Outcomes



## Safety Culture and the Second Victim

# Methods

## Implementing Evidence into Practice

## Frontline Safety Culture: Implementation Guide

- Bridge the gap between policy and practice
- Errors are treated not as personal failures, but as opportunities to improve the system and prevent harm

# Methods

## Implementing Evidence into Practice

### Frontline Safety Culture: Implementation Guide

Adverse event management

#### *Just Culture*

- Psychological safety
- Active leadership
- Transparency
- Fairness

# Conclusion

- *Reporting Culture and Learning Culture*
- Support second victims

# Thank you, questions?

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