

PATIENT SAFETY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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Errors and ADEs are costly

Adverse Events in USA Hospitals:

- 80,000 people hospitalised/year
- 7,000 deaths/year.
- 50% of these errors definitely or possibly preventable
- \$22 billion, costs of preventable adverse event (1999 USA Institute of Medicine Report)



Errors and ADEs are costly

At least 1.5 million preventable ADEs occur each year in the US:

- *Hospital*: 380,000-450,000.
- *Ambulatory Care*: 530,000
- *Long-term care*: 800,000

Cost of ADE

- Non-preventable ADE: \$2,595
- Preventable ADE: \$4,685

Bates DW et al . *JAMA*. 1997



Errors and ADEs are costly

In Holland (2005):

- Each year 10,000 people receive wrong medication and more than 3000 death each year because of errors.

In Australia:

- Medical error results in as many as 18 000 unnecessary deaths, and more than 50 000 patients become disabled each year.
- AU\$ 5 Billion (AUS)

Medication Errors

- nearly 1 of every 5 doses in the typical hospital and skilled nursing facility.
- The percentage of errors rated potentially harmful was 7%, or more than 40 per day in a typical 300-patient facility.
- The problem of defective medication administrations systems, although varied, is widespread.

Medication Errors Observed in 35 Health Care Facilities
Kenneth N. Barker, PhD; Elizabeth A. Flynn, PhD, et al.
(REPRINTED) ARCH INTERN MED/VOL 162, SEP 9,
2002 2002 American Medical Association

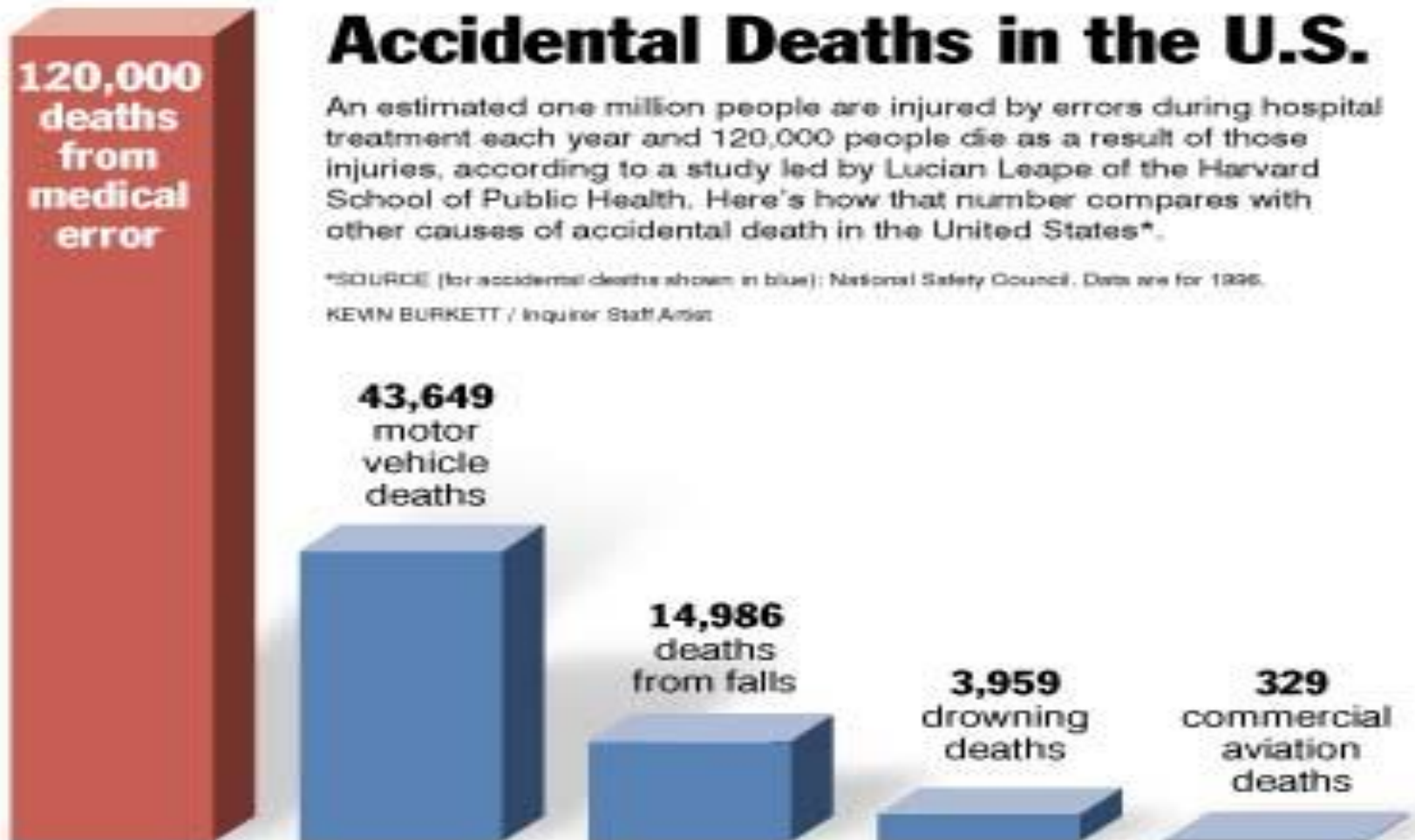
Adverse Events -International information

- Baker et al, Canada 2000
- Thomas et al, Utah Colorado 1992
- Wilson et al,* Australia, 1995
- Thomas et al, 2000, reworked 1995 Australian data
- Brennan et al, Leape et al, New York 1984
- Vincent et al, London 1999,2000
- Davis et al*, New Zealand 1998

<u>AE's</u>	<u>Preventable</u>
■ 7.5%	36%
■ 2.9%	--
■ 16.6%	51%
■ 10.6%	--
■ 3.7%	--
■ 10.8%	48%
■ 12.9%	37%

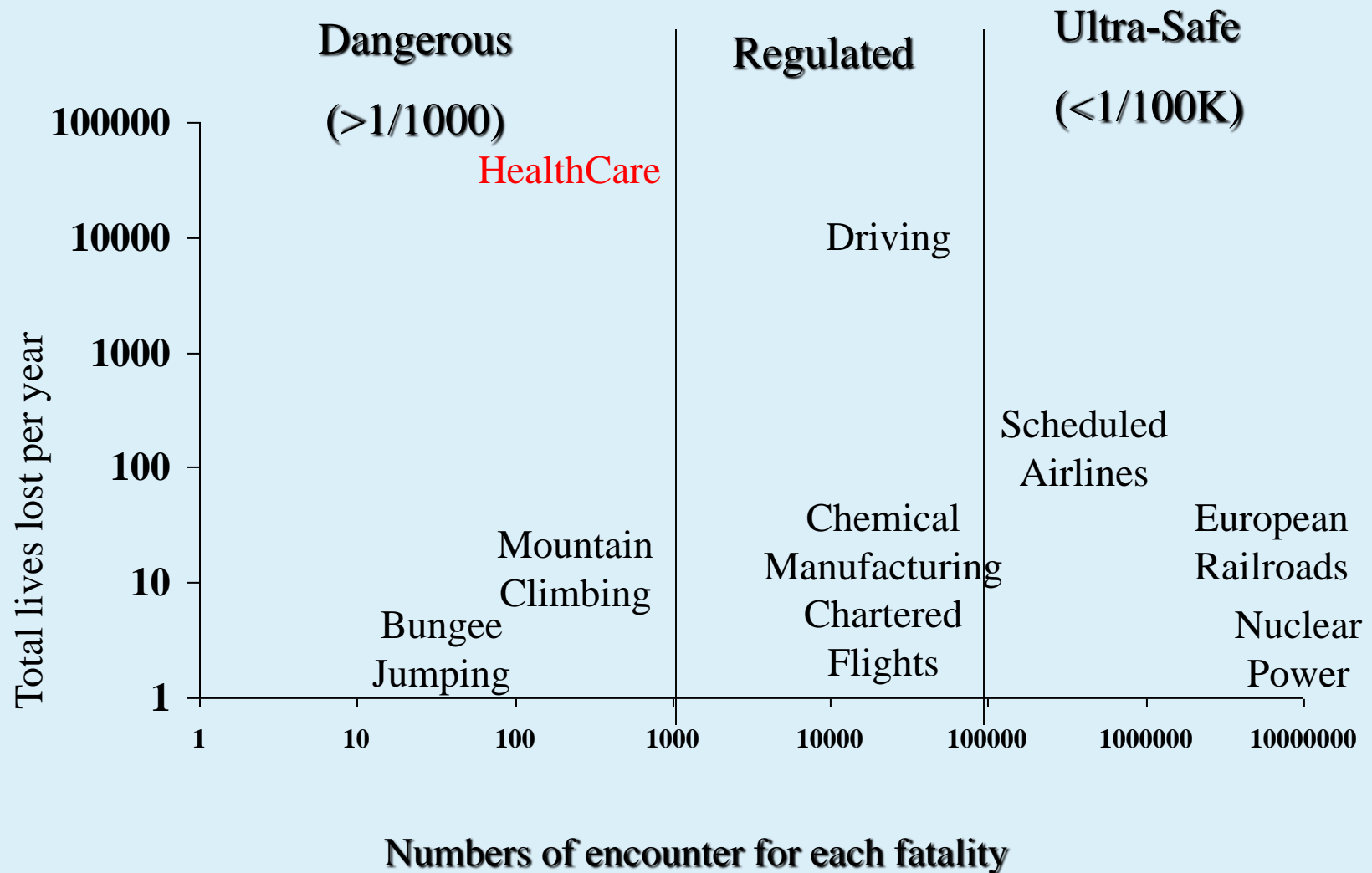
* Slight to modest evidence of healthcare management causation = 2 out of 6 scale, other papers management causation more certain:- 4 out of 6 scale

Estimated Deaths Due to Medical Error



How Hazardous Is Health Care?

(Modified from Leape)



Definitions:

.....**Patient safety** defined as freedom from accidental injury due to medical care.....

Institute of Medicine. To Err is Human. Building a safer Health System, Washington, National Academy Press: 1999

An adverse events: harm or injury caused by the management of a patients' disease or condition by health care professionals rather than by the underlying disease or condition itself.....

The World Health Profession Alliance

Errors Types (another classification)

Overuse

in 2001 top 50 medical and surgical procedures numbered 42 million. 7.5 million of these were unnecessary surgical procedures – causing about 40,000 deaths.

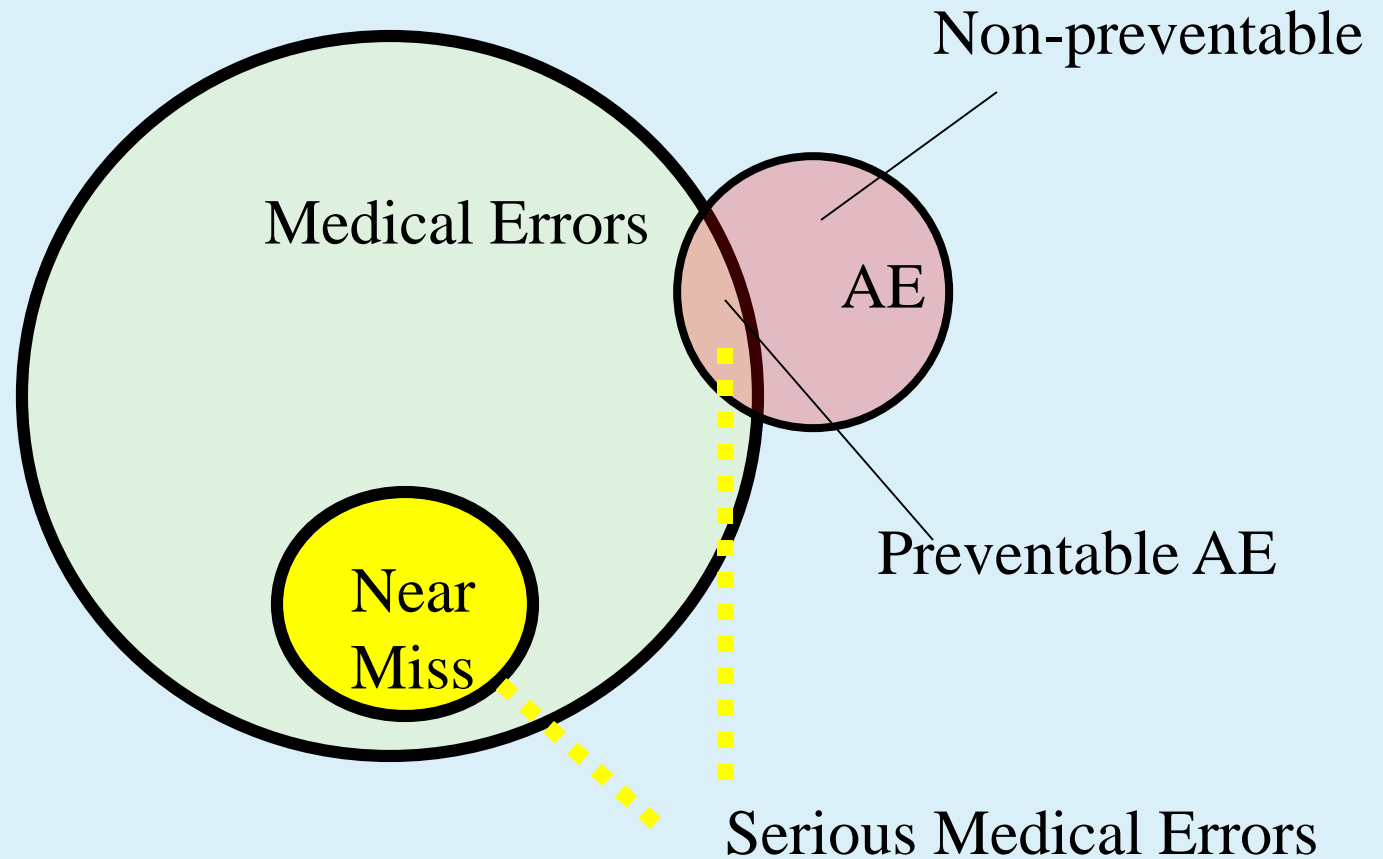
Underuse

Much greater problem than Overuse. Patients failed to receive recommended care about 46% of the time. e.g. hypertension receives 65% of recommended care.

Misuse

About 11% of the time patients receive care not recommended – leading to harm

Medical Errors & Adverse Events



Patient's Encounter with Health Care System



IF

No error occurs

IF

Unavoidable adverse event occurs



Beneficial outcome may occur




OUTCOME

**ACTION
REQD**

Advances in medical knowledge required to prevent recurrence

Opportunities for system redesign – commonly go unnoticed


Patient's Encounter with Health Care System 

IF

Error occurs

IF

Consequential

 Preventable adverse event occurs

System redesign and improvement required to prevent recurrence

OUTCOME

ACTION RQD



Patient's Encounter with Health Care System



IF

Error occurs

IF

Inconsequential on its own

Beneficial outcome may occur



Opportunities for system redesign and improvement – commonly go unnoticed

OUTCOME

ACTION RQD

Patient's Encounter with Health Care System



IF

Error occurs

IF

Inconsequential on its own

IF

Undetected
(may cause
cascade of
errors)

IF

Preventable
adverse event
occurs



System redesign
and improvement
required to
prevent
recurrence

OUTCOME

ACTION
RQD

Patient's Encounter with Health Care System



No error occurs

IF

Error occurs

IF

Inconsequential on its own

Consequential

IF

Detected and corrected

Undetected (may cause cascade of errors)

IF

IF

Unavoidable adverse event occurs

Beneficial outcome may occur

Preventable adverse event occurs

OUTCOME

OUTCOME

ACTION RQD

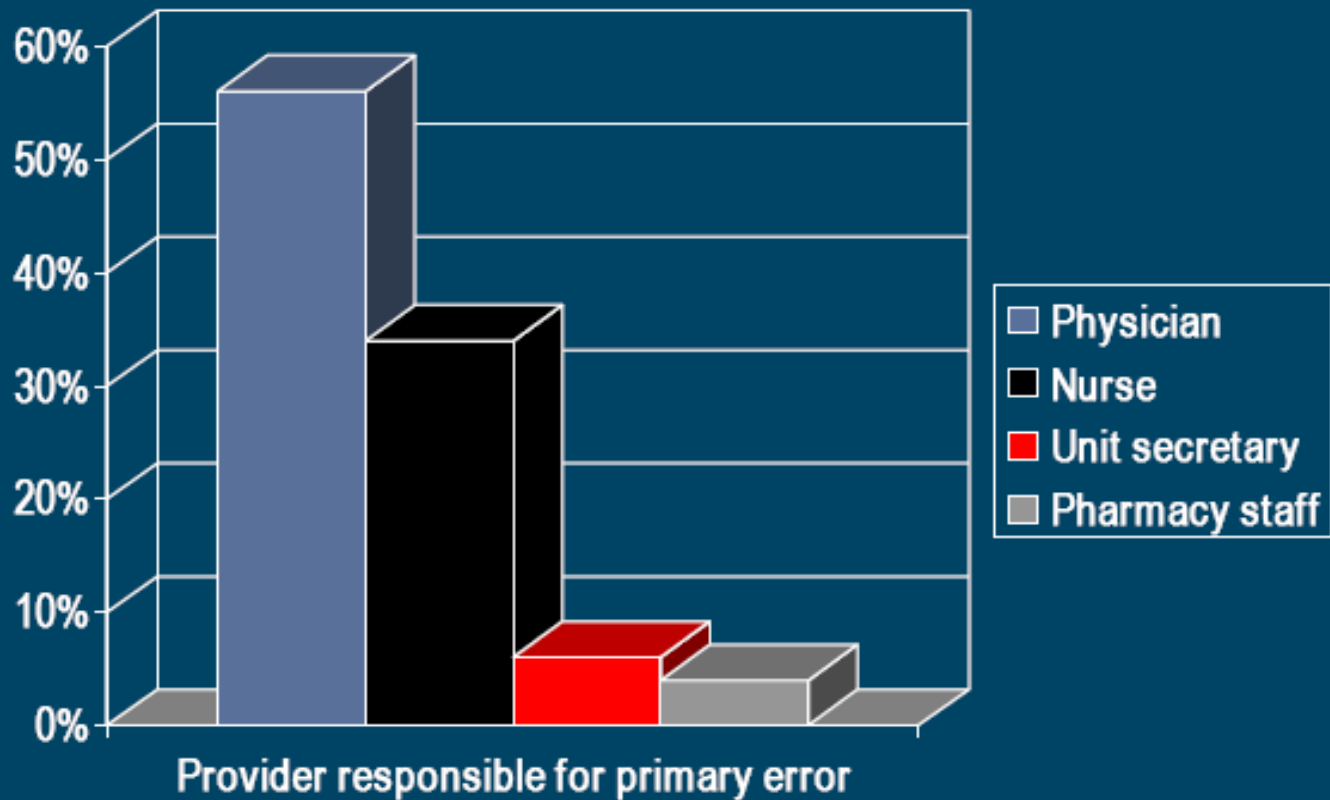
ACTION RQD

Advances in medical knowledge required to prevent recurrence

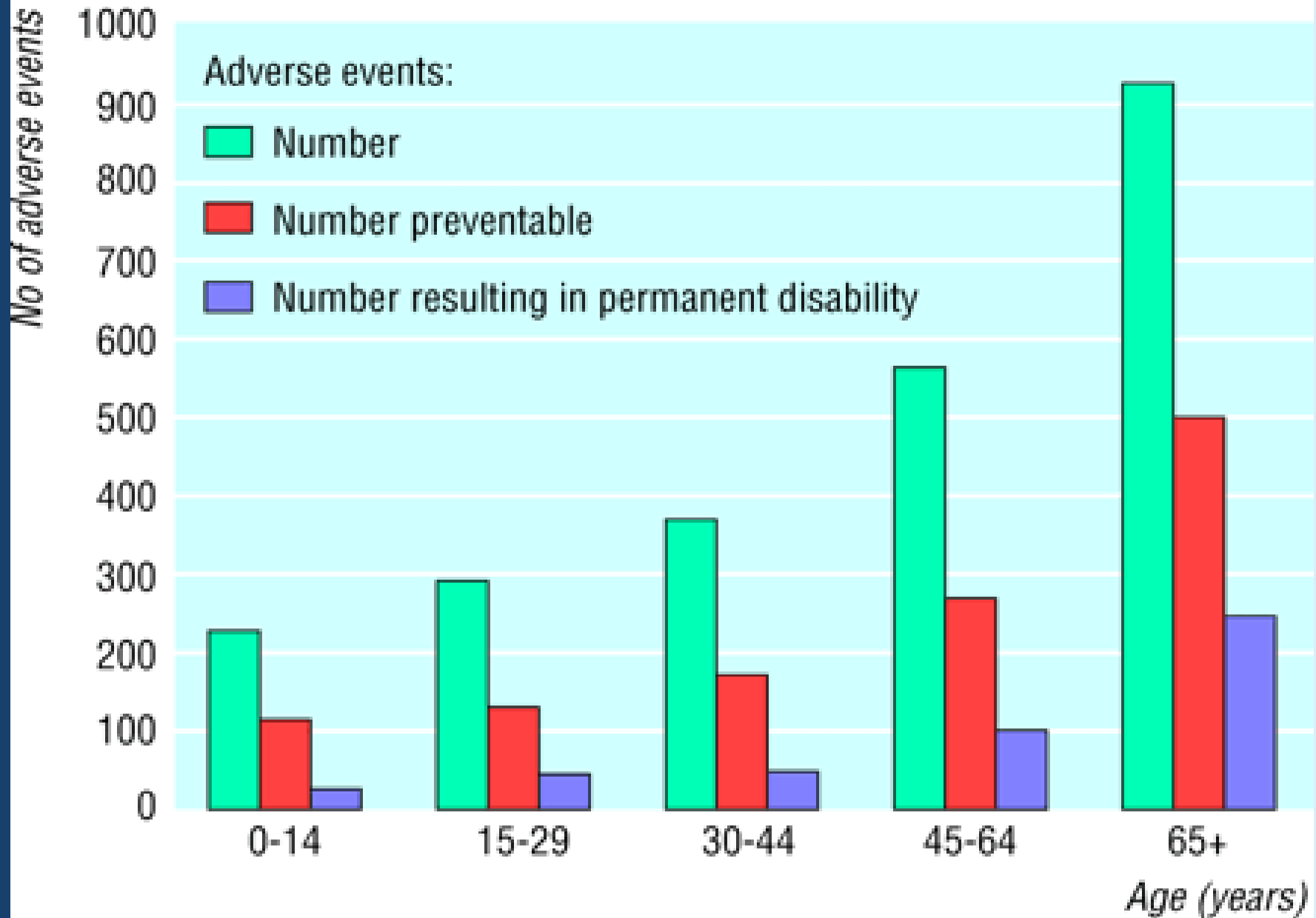
Opportunities for system redesign and improvement – commonly go unnoticed

System redesign and improvement required to prevent recurrence

Where do ADEs 'come from'?



Source: The Advisory Board



“Knowing is not enough;
we must apply. Willing
is not enough; we must
do.”

Wolfgang von Goethe

How to think of error?

- **An individual failing**

- *It will not solve the problem--it will probably in fact make it worse because it fails to address the problem*
- *Doctors will hide errors*
- *May destroy many doctors inadvertently (the second victim)*

- **A systems failure**

- *This is the starting point for redesigning the system and reducing error*

James Reason's bottom line

- **Fallibility is part of the human condition**
- **We can't change the human condition**
- **We can change the conditions under which people work**

Good Outcomes, Good Systems

- Historically, mistakes or poor outcomes have been blamed on “dumb doctor,” or “dumb nurse.” The “solution” was the ABP reaction – Accuse, Blame and Punish.
- But inefficiencies and errors mostly can be traced not to one error, but a cascade of poor or poorly executed procedures, policies, technologies and training. A good system will provide a good outcome; a poorly designed one will produce a poor one.
- We need to design health care systems that put safety first (First, do no harm)

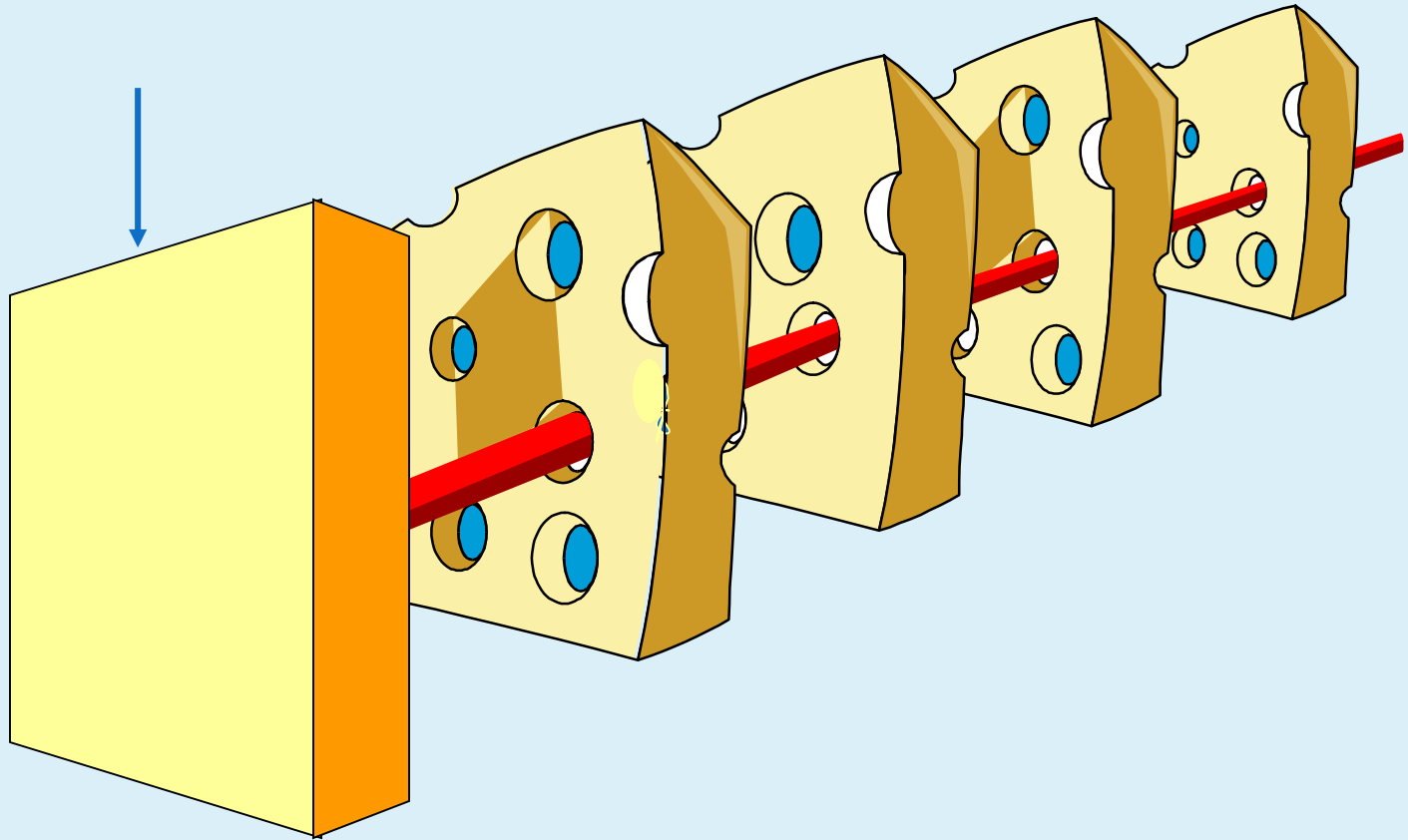
A System Problem

“...adverse events are generally not the result of one thing that went wrong. They result from the combination of a series of latent errors that are built into the system.”

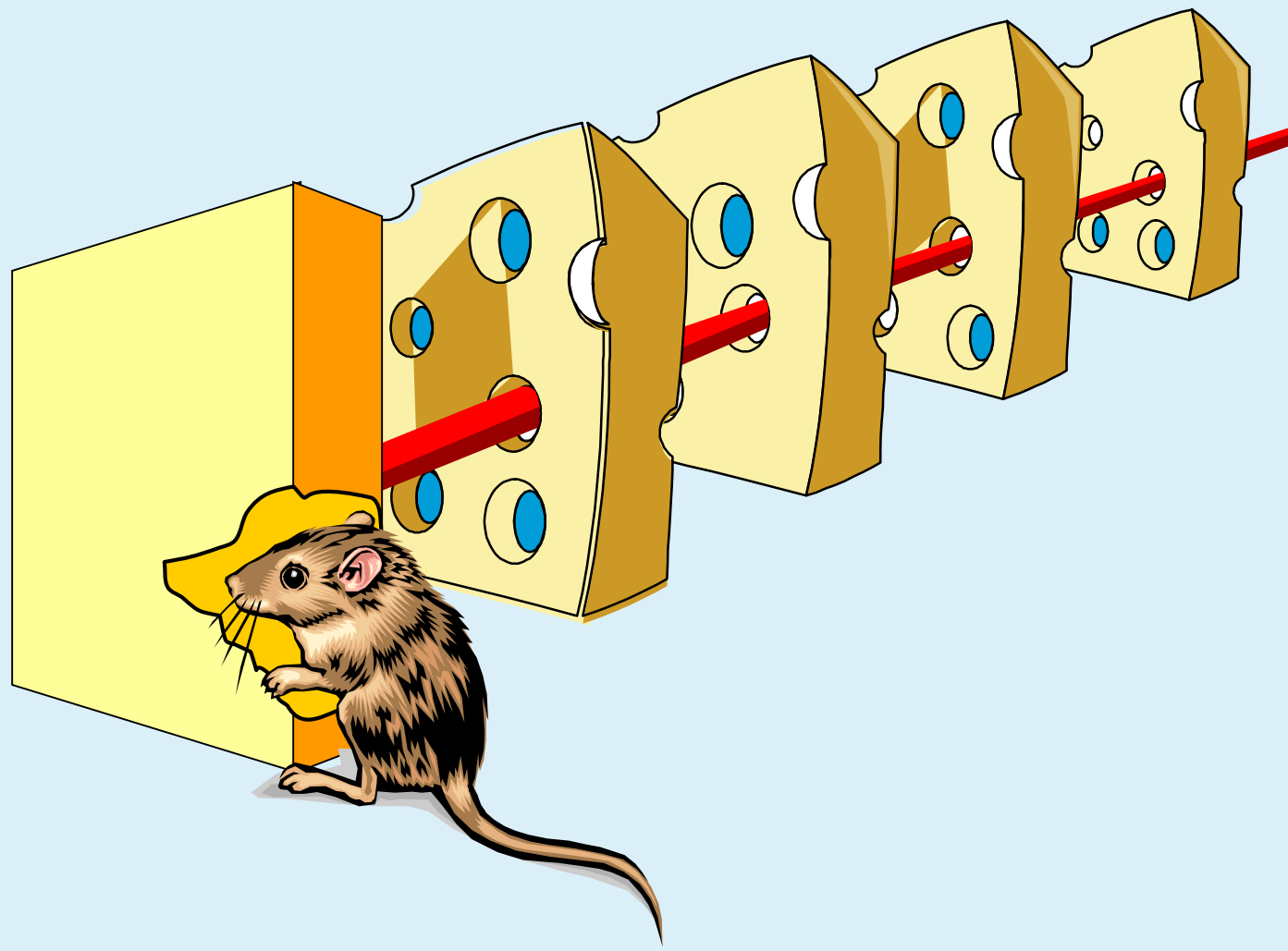
Paul M. Schyve, MD, Vice President, JCAHO In: Reducing Medical Errors, Improving Patient Safety: Taking the Next Step, HealthLeaders Roundtable, June 2001.

'Swiss cheese' model

SAFETY BARRIERS



Be careful!



Theory of Constraints

- Any improvement is a change
 - *not every change is an improvement*
 - *but we cannot improve something unless we change it*

Goldratt (1990)

Any improvement is a change

- any change is a perceived threat to security
 - *there will always be someone who will look at the suggested change as a threat*
- any threat to security gives rise to emotional resistance
 - *you can rarely overcome emotional resistance with logic alone*
 - *emotional resistance can only be overcome by a stronger emotion*

Goldratt (1990)



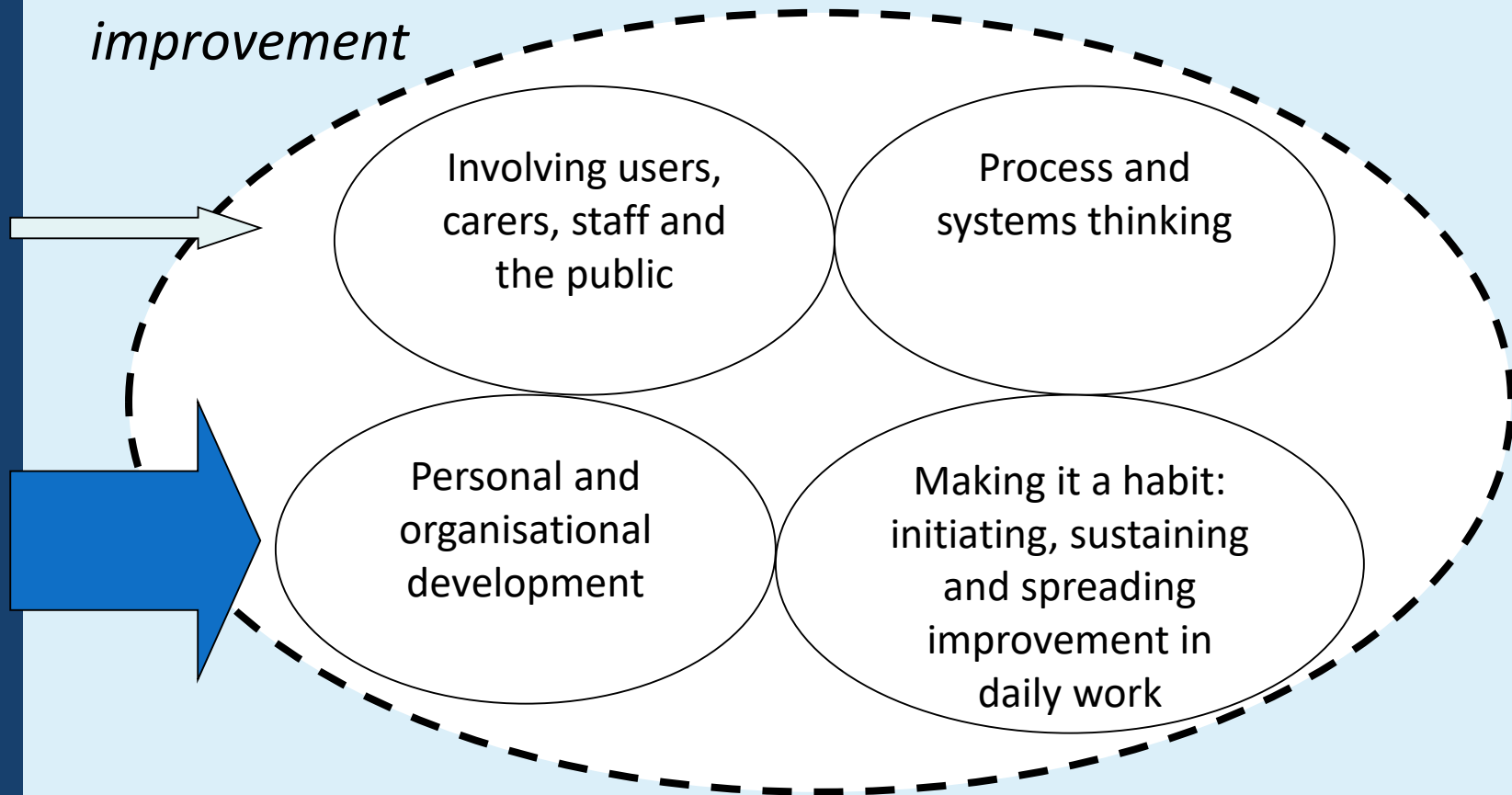
“Anyone who thinks
you can overcome
emotional resistance
with logic was probably
never married”

Involve the nurses



Discipline of Improvement

4 equally important parts of improvement



Vision: Every single person is capable, enabled and encouraged to work with others to improve their part of the service

Safety Principles

- Error prevention
- Making errors visible
- Mitigation of harm from errors

- “No problem can be solved within the same consciousness which caused it.”

Albert Einstein

- “Since modern information tools can do things that the unaided human mind cannot do, when we use such tools we may see a picture of medicine we have not seen before.”

Larry Weed

- “...there are enormous ‘voltage drops’ along the transmission line for medical knowledge.”

Lawrence Weed (1997)

Information Technology to Improve Patient Safety

- Electronic medical records (EMR)
- Electronic orders and prescribing:
Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)
- Electronic decision-support tools
- Handheld devices (PDAs)
- The electronic office

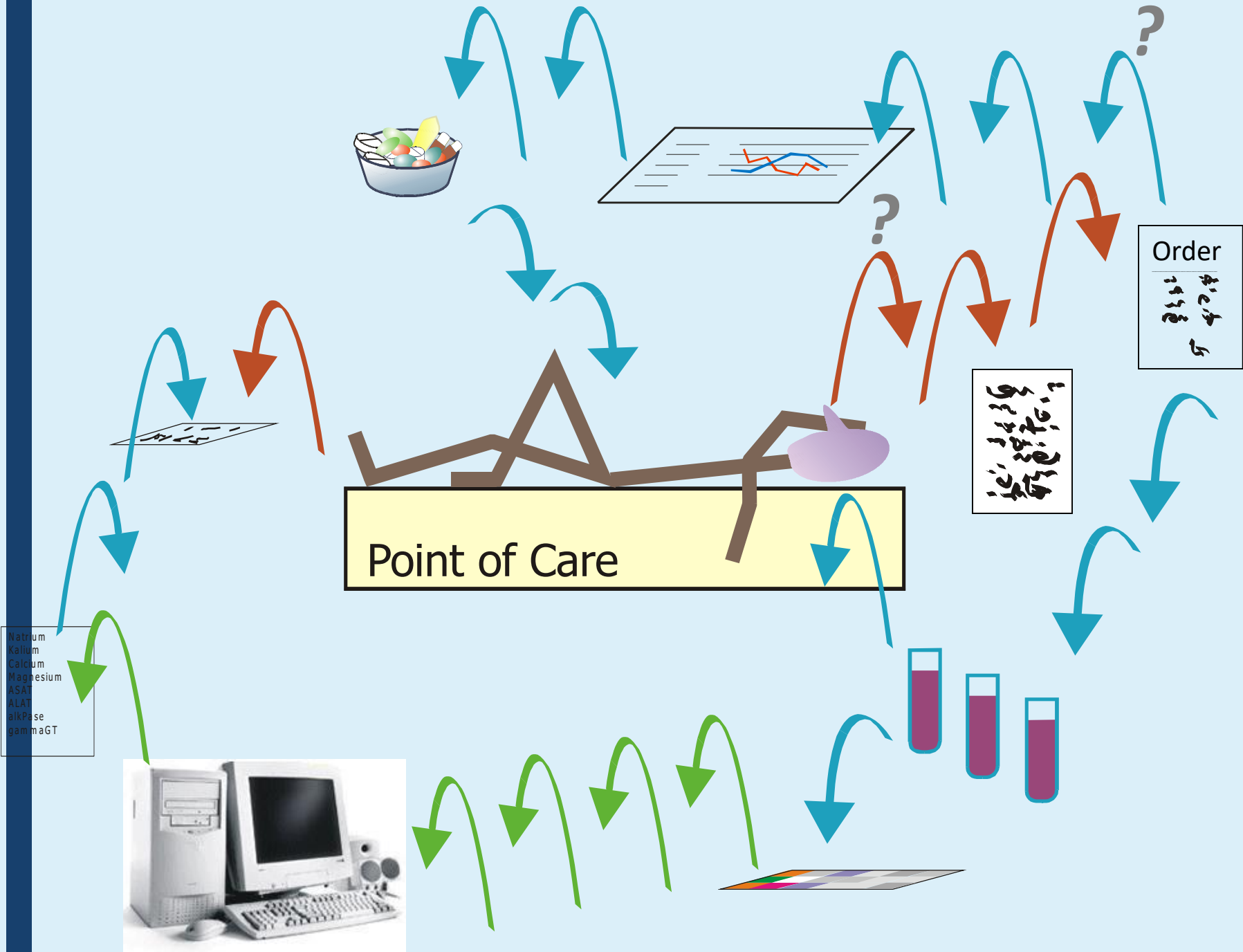
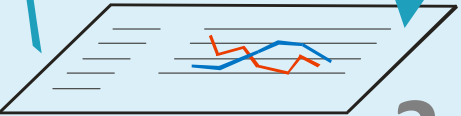
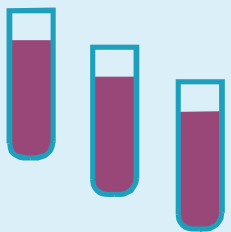
Natrium
Kalium
Calcium
Magnesium
ASAT
ALAT
alkPase
gammaGT



Point of Care

Order
1413
1413
1413

Handwritten medical notes in Arabic script.

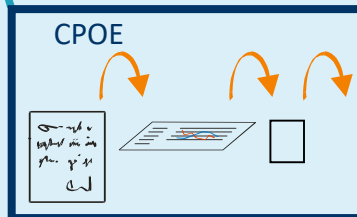
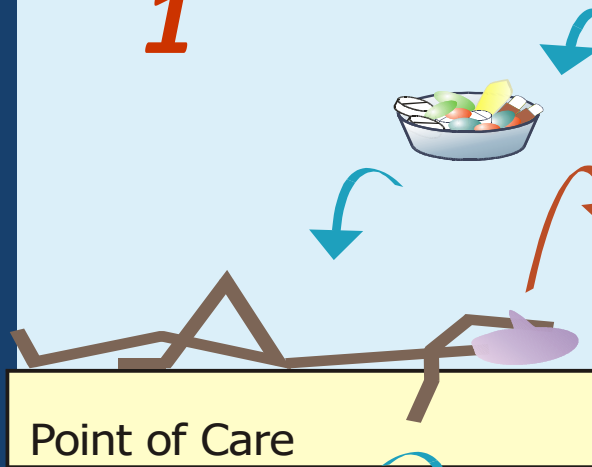


3 Dose calculation

- single dose
- dosing intervall
- divisibility

1

2

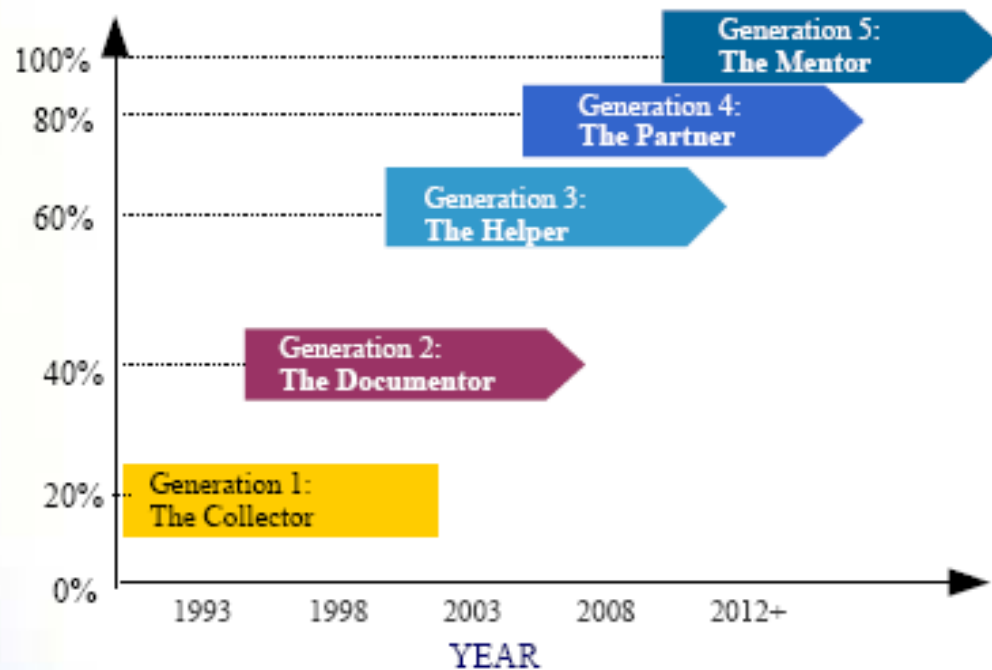


- Watchdog
- renal failure?
 - special dose requirements?
 - Contraindications?

- Drug data base
- local formulary
 - common thesaurus



Reduction in
Preventable Errors



Prepared by the Gartner Group, Inc.

See paper, "Leveraging IT to Improve Patient Safety"
Garets/Ball/Handler (in press, IMIA Yearbook 2003)

Generation I

- Create a clinical data repository

consolidation key clinical data

- From this database, information can be located efficiently and reliably

Generation I = 15% reduction in preventable
errors

Generation II

- Implementation of basic clinical decision support systems (CDSS) - **a key for eliminating errors**

GI (15%) + GII (25%) = 40% reduction in preventable errors

Reducing Haphazard Decisions

What's the last
Potassium ?

What does this
child weigh ?

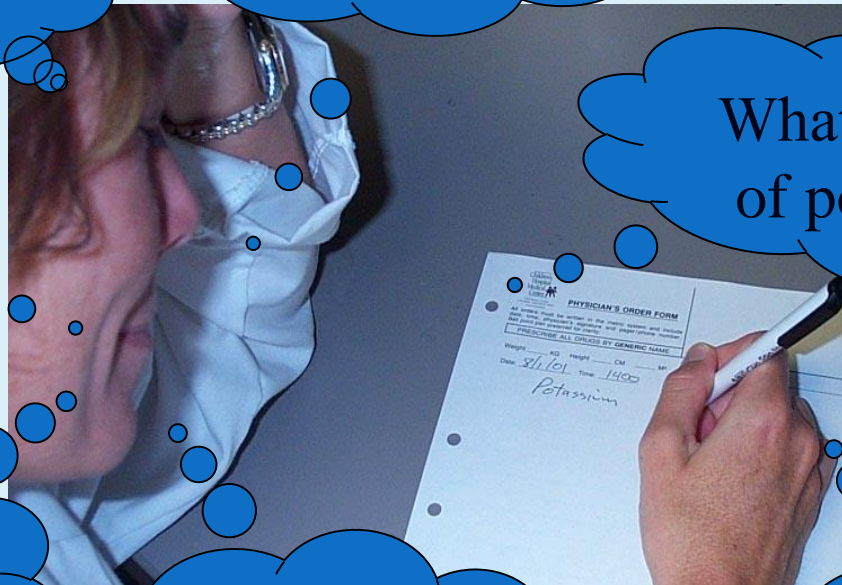
Is there a
policy ?

What's the dose
of potassium ?

Where are the
chart & blue card ?

How fast can I
give this drug ?

Protection from
Overdose?

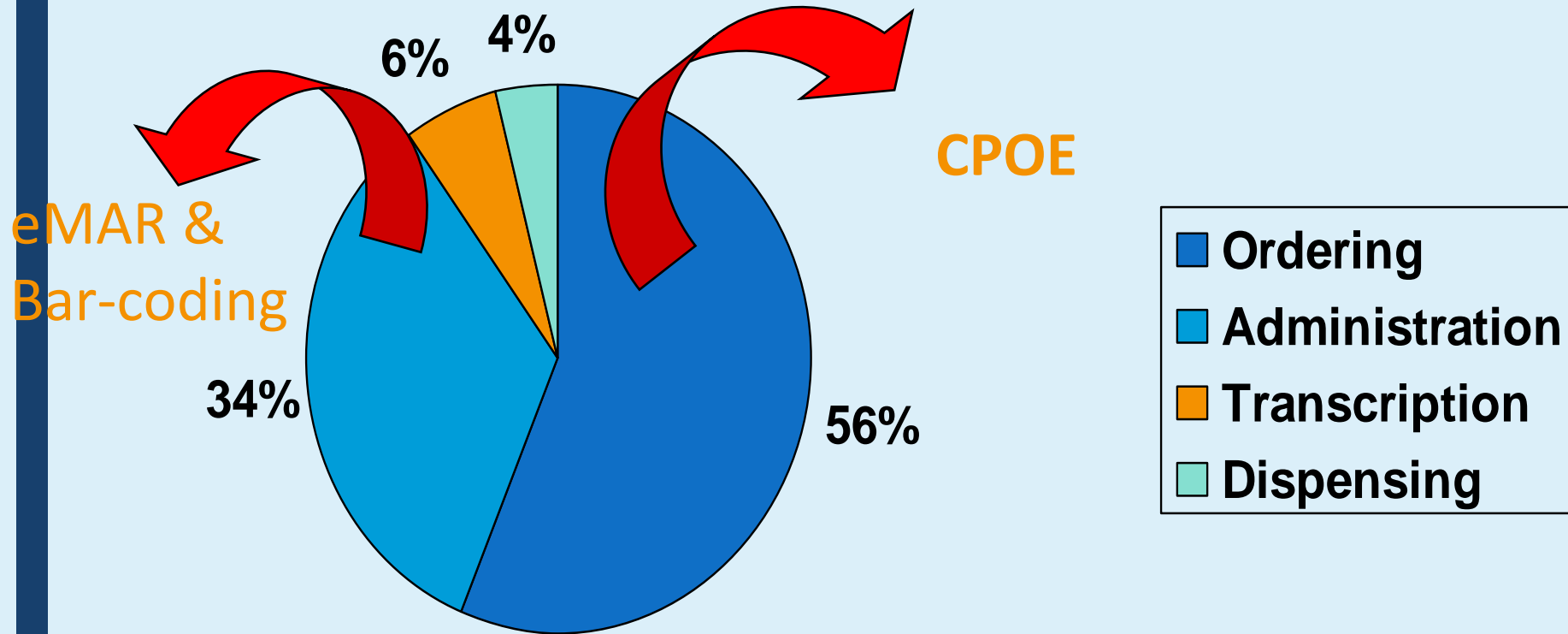


Generation III

- Combining CDSS across the continuum of care (in and out patients)
- Use of controlled medical vocabulary to normalize medical concepts
- CPOE (to better manage ordering)
- Work flow improvements
- Combining work flow change and CDSS
- This 3rd generation has the basic infrastructure to measure or assess incidence of potential errors and measure effectiveness of interventions

GI (15%) + GII (25%) + GIII (30%) = 70% preventable error.
IOM goal of at least a 50% reduction of preventable medical errors

Errors resulting in ADEs: Harvard Study



Bates DW et al. Incidence of adverse drug events and potential adverse drug events. JAMA 1995;274:29-34.

Bar Coding and Repackaging



Bar Coding and Repackaging





I'M WORRIED
THAT HEALTH CARE
HAS BECOME TOO
IMPERSONAL, DOC.

NONSENSE...
JUST RELAX
AND LIE BACK
ON THE BAR
CODE SCANNER.

Generation IV

- More sophisticated CDSS
- Tailored care to the individual patient
- Disease management tracking
- Protocols (Care management, Clinical)
- $$\text{GI (15\%)} + \text{GII (25\%)} + \text{GIII (30\%)} + \text{GIV (20\%)} = 90\% \text{ preventable error.}$$

Generation IV

After the next decade 2010

- Highly sophisticated CDSS
- True evidence-based medicine
- Outcomes tracking of each episode of care
- Links to NLM and new medical research results from the medical literature
- Interfaces to mobile personal monitoring devices
- Personalized accessible patient record information anywhere

Technology Adoption, Change!

No. of years for 30% of Americans to own technology:

- Telephone 40 years
- Television 17 years
- PC 13 years
- Internet 7 years

D.Z. Sand, HIMSS presentation 2002, Cambridge Technology Partners

Thermometers

“Physicians had always avoided applying mathematics to the study of the body or disease. In the 1820’s, 200 years after the discovery of thermometers, French clinicians began using them.”

The Great Influenza, John M . Barry p25

Main Barriers



- Physicians were taught to be independent and have been resistant to guidelines and systems
- Physicians view teamwork as golf teams not volleyball teams
- Disruptive behavior has been tolerated and in some respects rewarded among physicians

