

Resilient Healthcare

# Resilience

**It's not you, it's the System**

Dr Carl Horsley

HQSC Deteriorating Patient Workshop

**You are in the  
wrong room**



# Resilience

is the ability of the team/system to  
**monitor** and **adjust**  
performance to achieve its goals,  
even when the unexpected happens.



# Objectives

Understand “Safety II”  
Understand system resilience  
Understand adaptive teams

# Outline

**Introduction to Safety II**

**The Building Blocks of a resilient system**

**Respond**

**adaptive teams**

**Monitor**

**the expectation gap**

**Anticipate**

**seeing the future**

**Learn**

**fixing the right problems**

**Conclusion (Hand holding and singing)**

# Rules of Engagement

- This is a workshop
- You have the answers
- Share the airtime
- We will be timing you



# **Your Workplace**



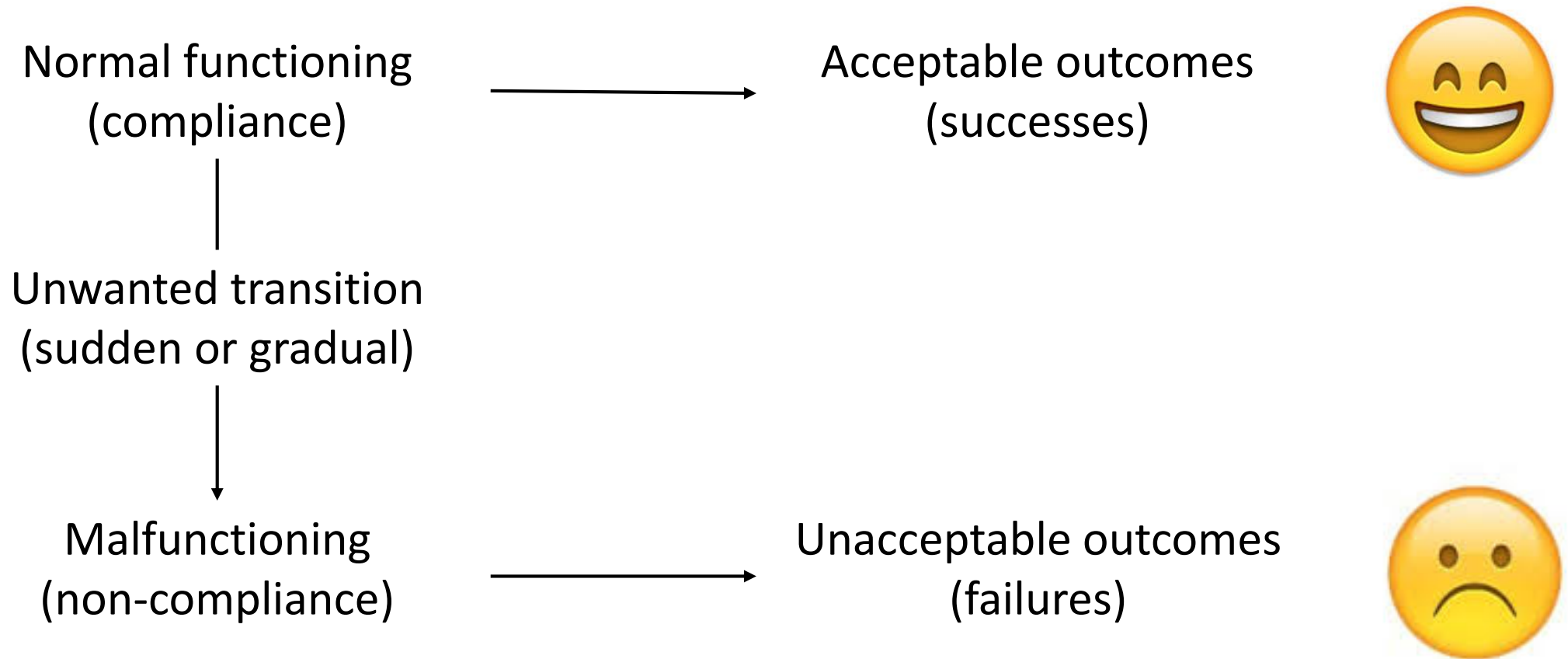
**“Work-As-Imagined”**

# **The Aim of Safety**

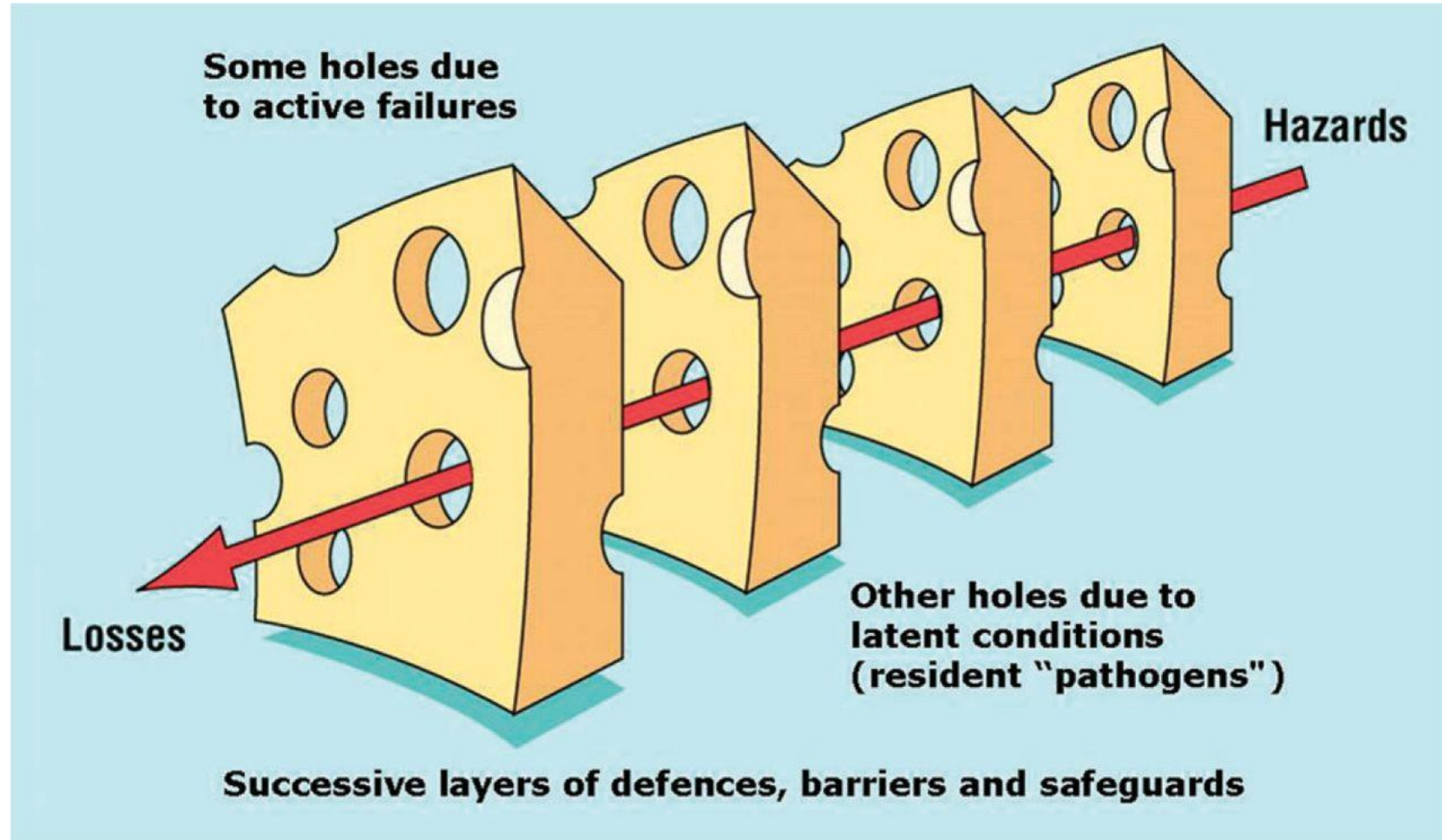
*That as few things as possible  
go **wrong***



# The Current View of Safety – Safety I



# The Swiss Cheese Model



# Incident





**Find and Fix**

# Compliance



# More Defenses





**People  
are a  
liability**

# Safety - I

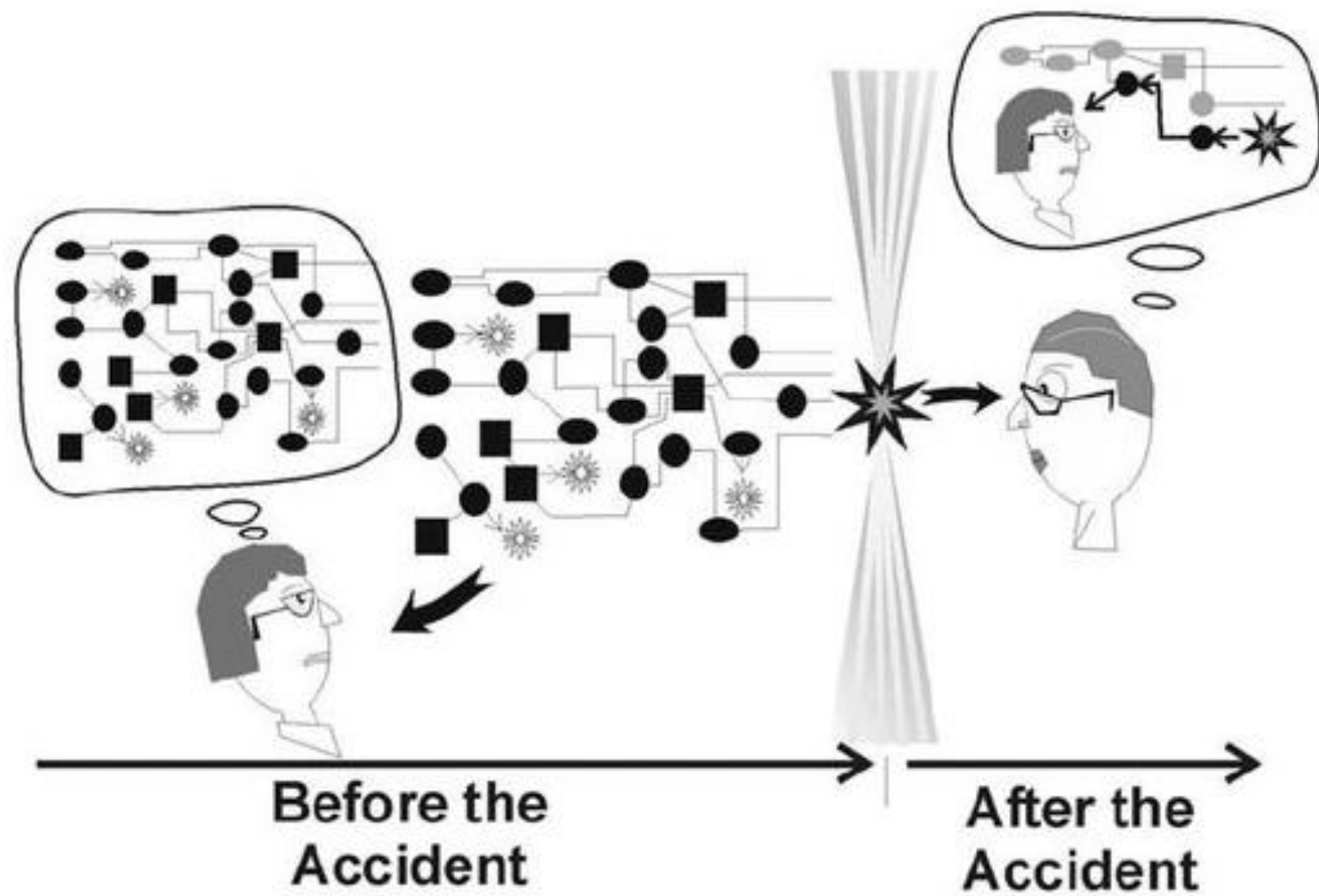
<b>Definition of safety</b>	That as few things as possible go wrong
<b>Safety management principle</b>	Reactive; responds when something happens or something is deemed an unacceptable risk
<b>View of the human factor in safety</b>	Humans are predominantly seen as a liability or hazard
<b>Accident investigations</b>	Accidents are caused by failures and malfunctions. The purpose of investigations is to identify the causes.
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Accidents are caused by failures and malfunctions. The purpose of investigations is to identify the causes and contributory factors



**Why isn't it working as hoped?**

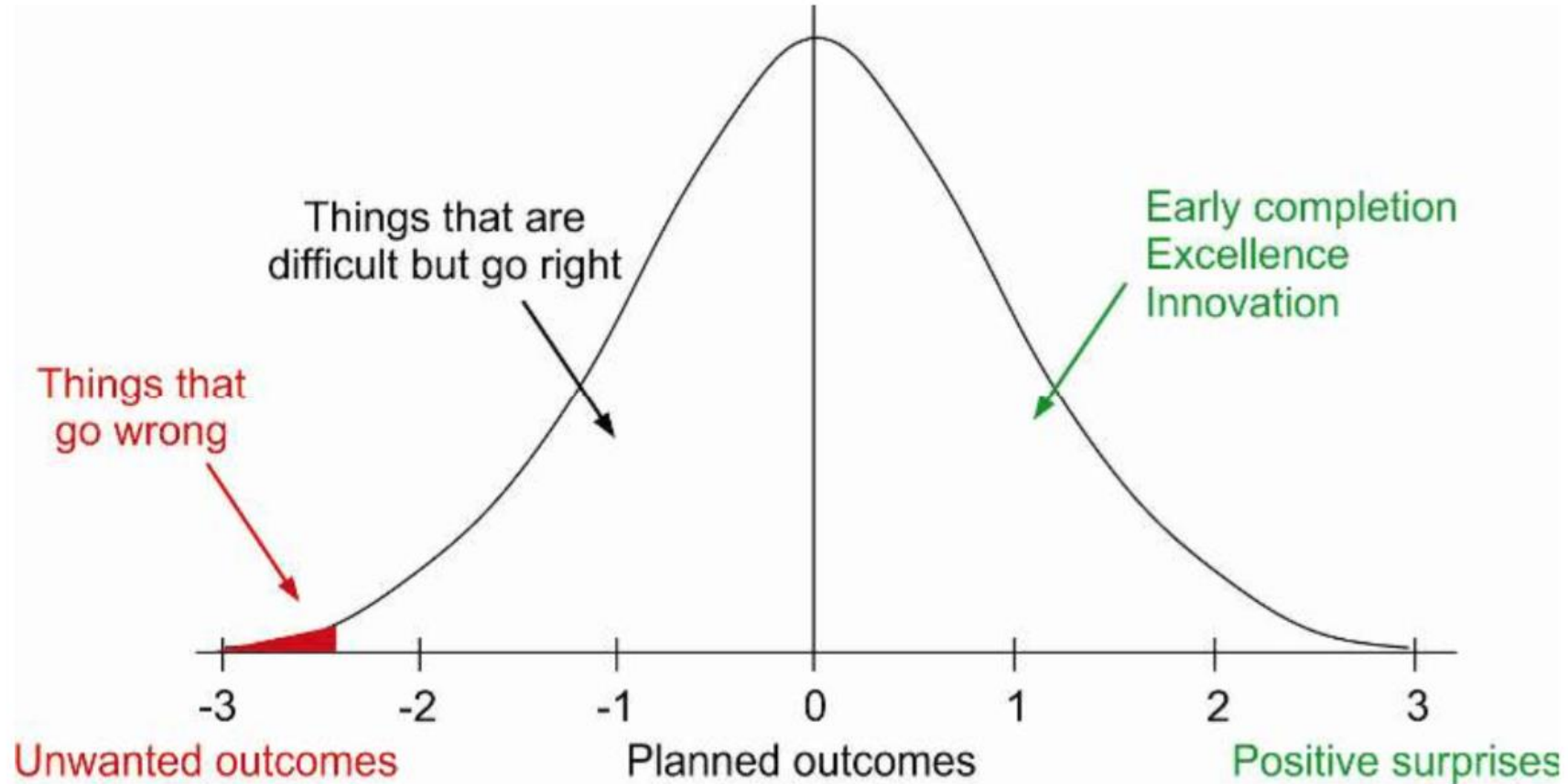
# Reactive Retrospective Biased





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# Limits Learning About Our Systems



Trying to understand  
**safety**  
by only looking at  
**incidents...**

...is like trying to  
understand successful  
**marriage**  
by only looking at  
**divorces.**



# Creates Brittleness

Hides the sources of  
**Adaptability**  
and  
**Innovation**

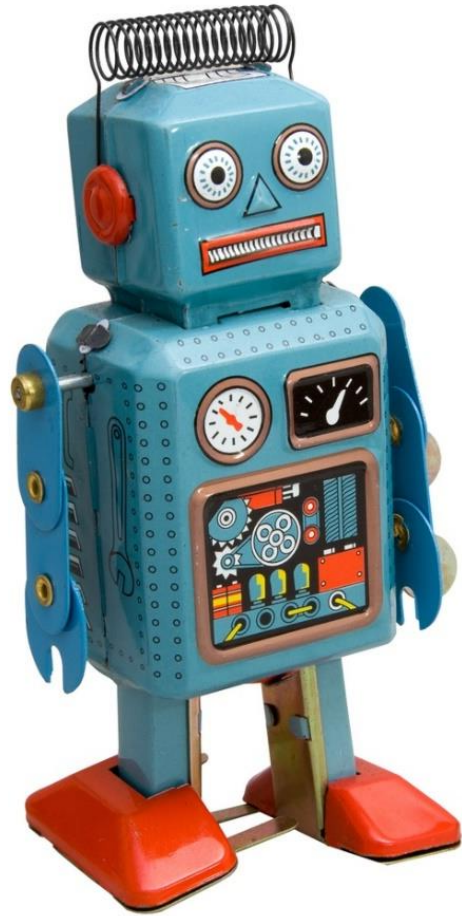


# Can Make Normal Work Harder

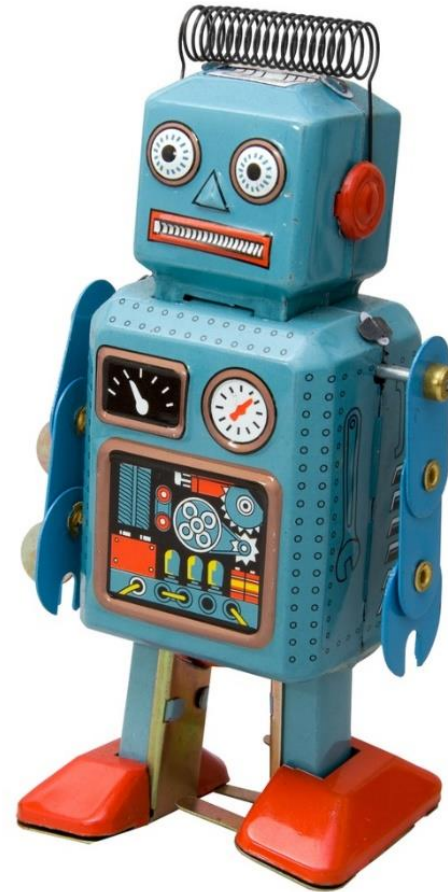


**and More Complex**

# Changes the way we see ourselves



Healthcare Worker



Patient and family



# Zero or -1?

Normal functioning  
(compliance)



“Nothing to see here”



Unwanted transition  
(sudden or gradual)



Malfunctioning  
(non-compliance)



“I can’t believe you did that”



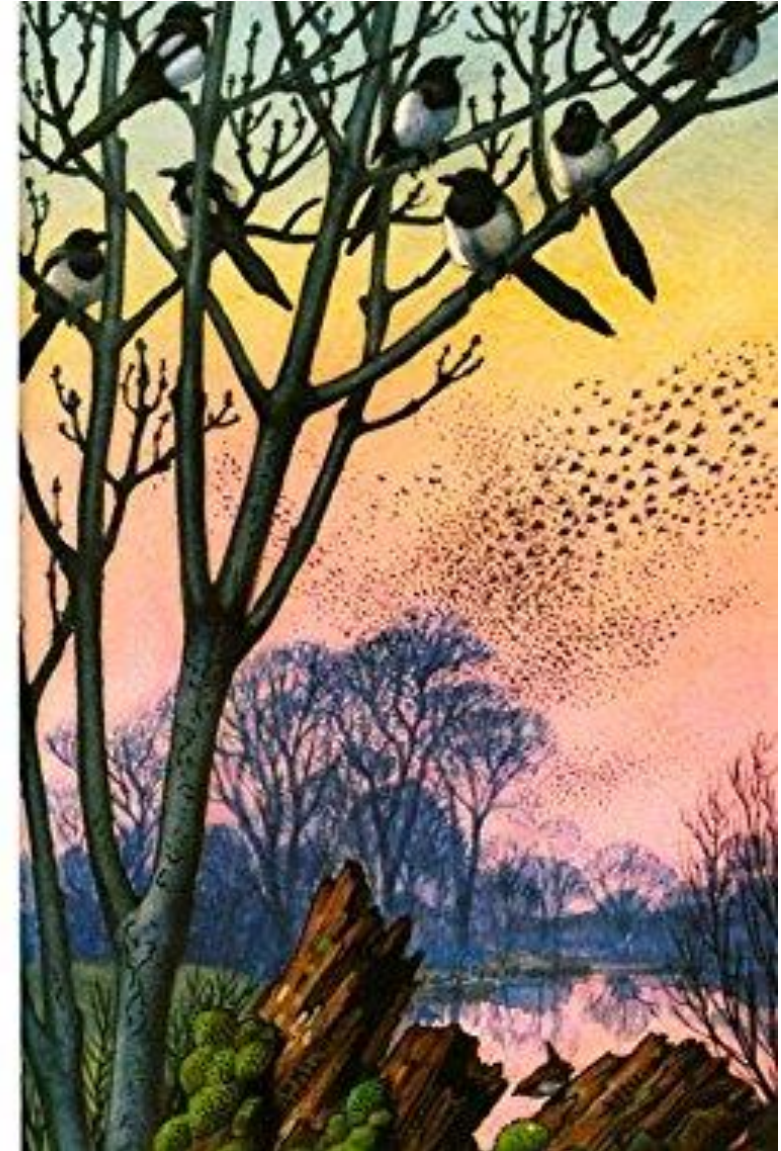
# Upgrade the Components

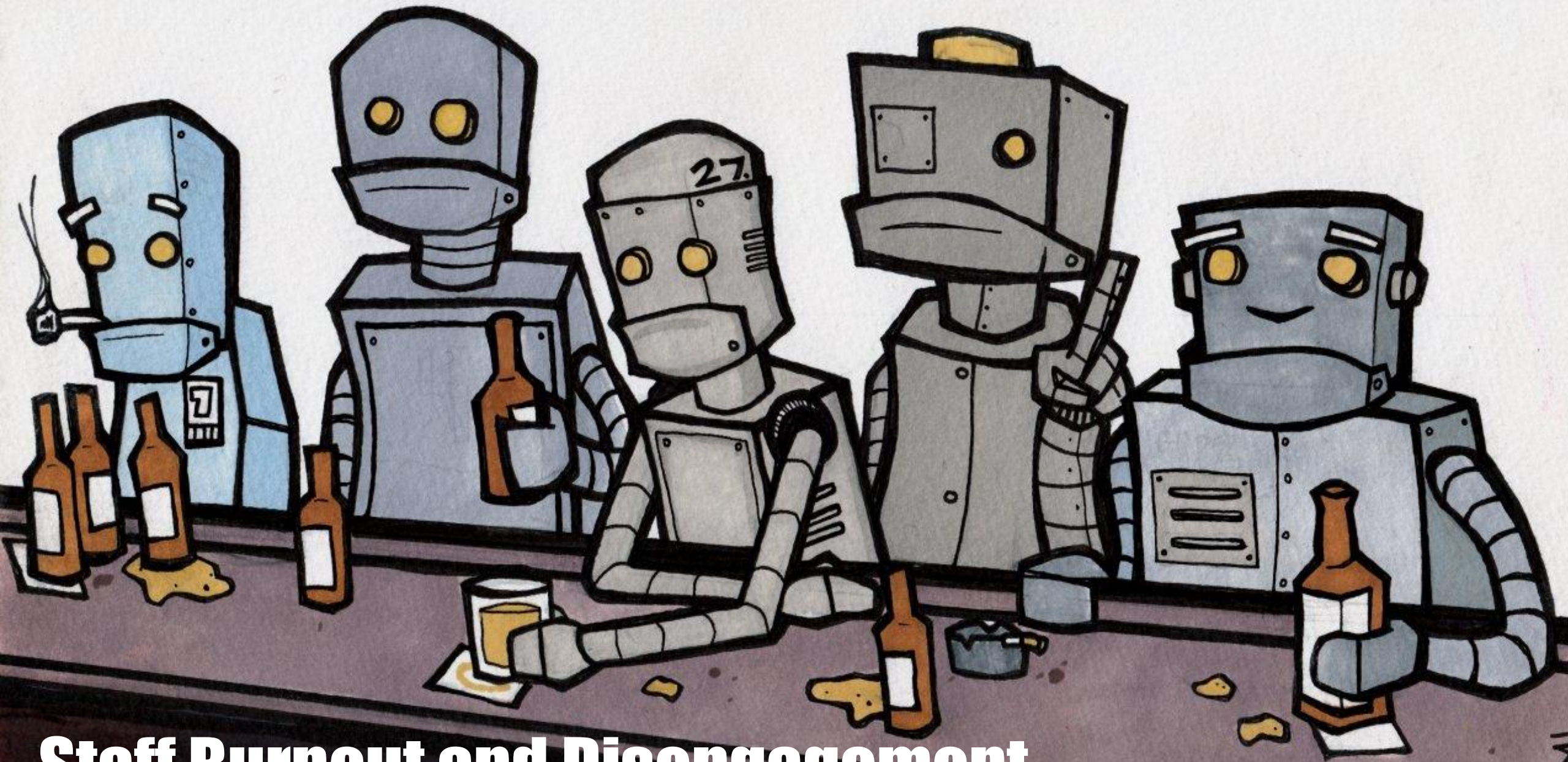
- Re-education
- Team drills
- Mindfulness
- Empathy training

Leanne has been staring at this beautiful tree for five hours.

She was meant to be in the office. Tomorrow she will be fired.

In this way, mindfulness has solved her work-related stress.





**Staff Burnout and Disengagement**

# **The Fundamental Problem**

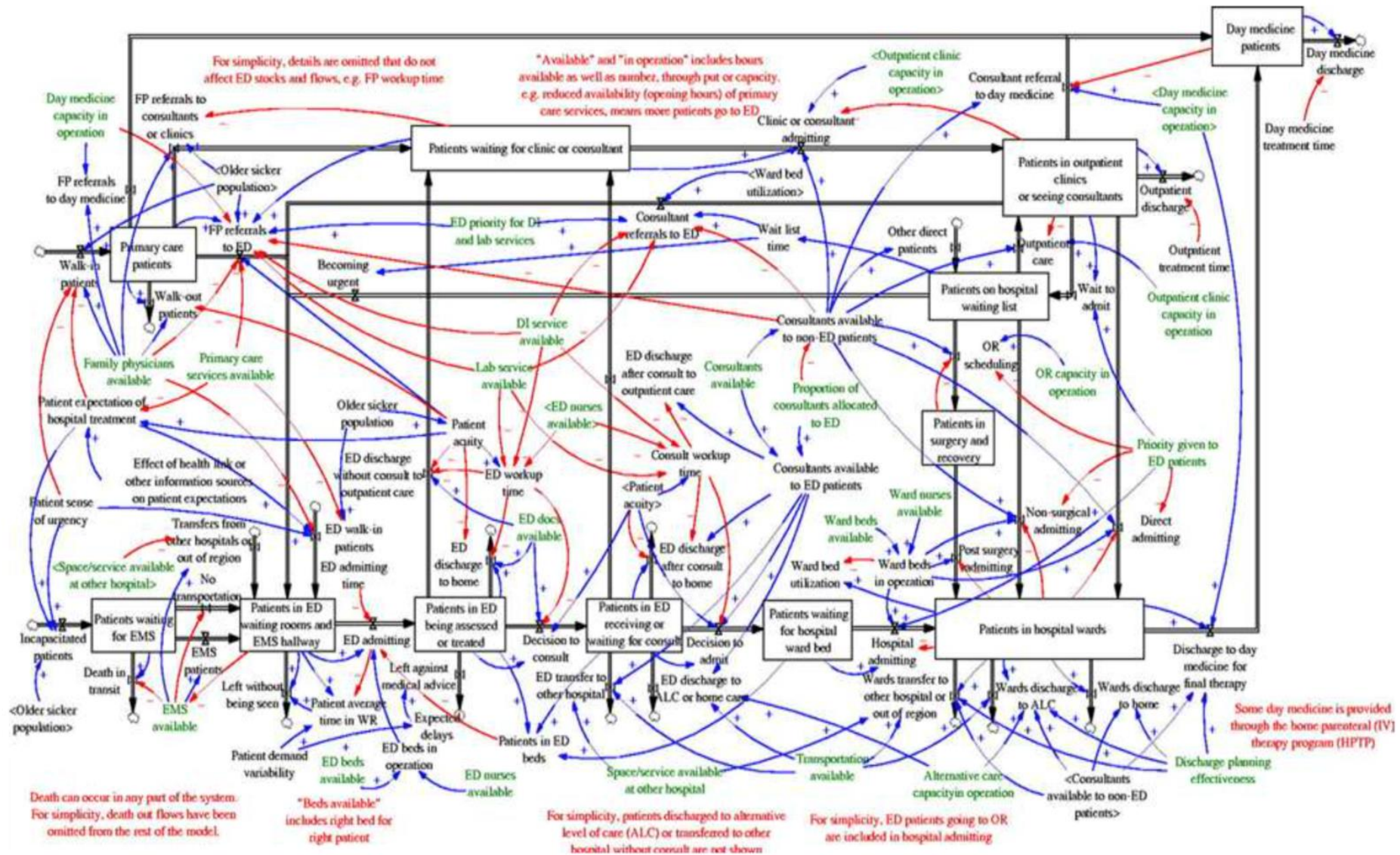


The  
Cheese  
Is  
**ALIVE!**



Starlings by Elbow 2008

# Work-As-Done (WAD)





**E.T.T.O.**

**Efficiency**

**Thoroughness**



**WAD**

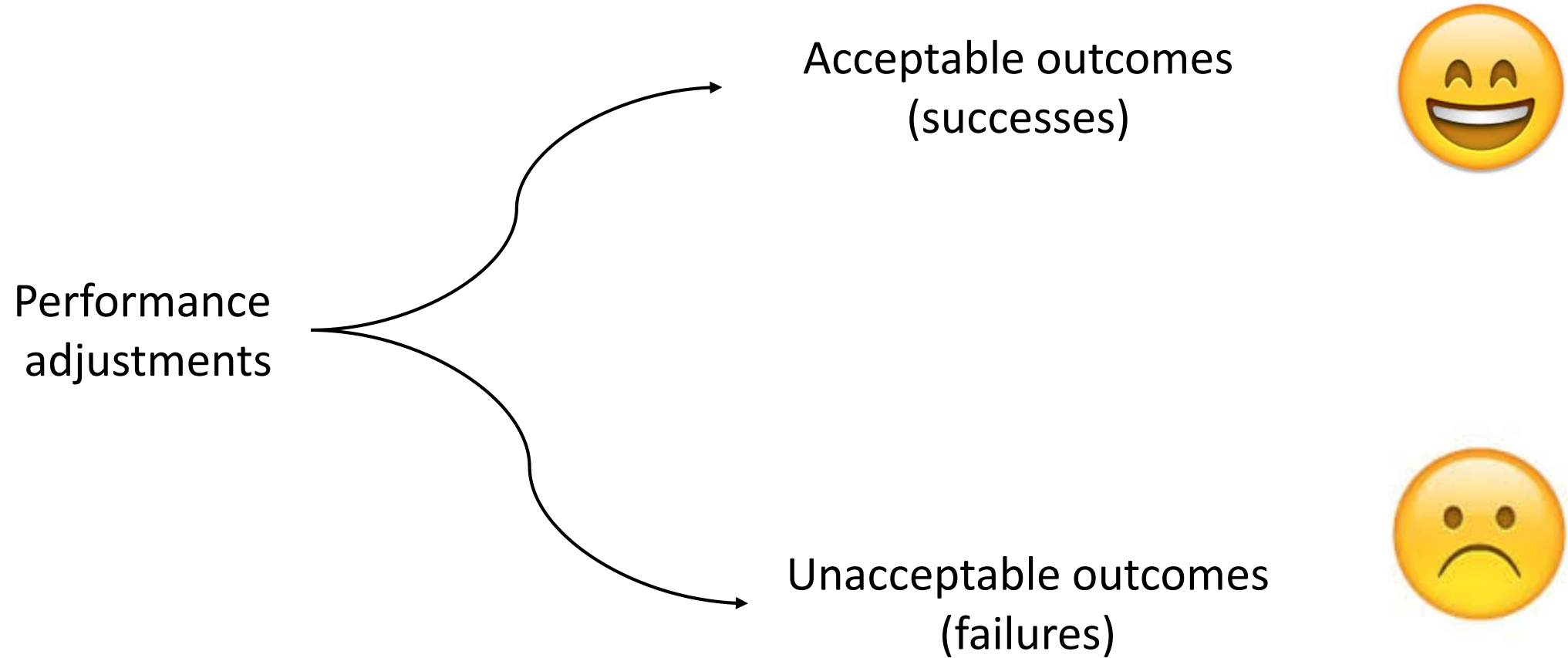
**MIND**

**THE**

**GAP**

**WAI**

# The New View – Safety II



*The system only succeeds  
**because** people/teams  
are able to adjust to meet the  
conditions of work*

**Complexity is the problem...**



**People are the solution**

# **The New Aim of Safety**

*That as many things as  
possible go **right***

# Safety - II

<b>Definition of safety</b>	That as many things as possible go right
<b>Safety management principle</b>	Proactive, continuously trying to anticipate developments and events
<b>View of the human factor in safety</b>	Humans are seen as a resource necessary for system flexibility and resilience
<b>Accident investigations</b>	The purpose of an investigation is to understand how things usually go right as a basis for explaining how things occasionally go wrong
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	To understand the conditions where performance variability can become difficult or impossible to monitor and control

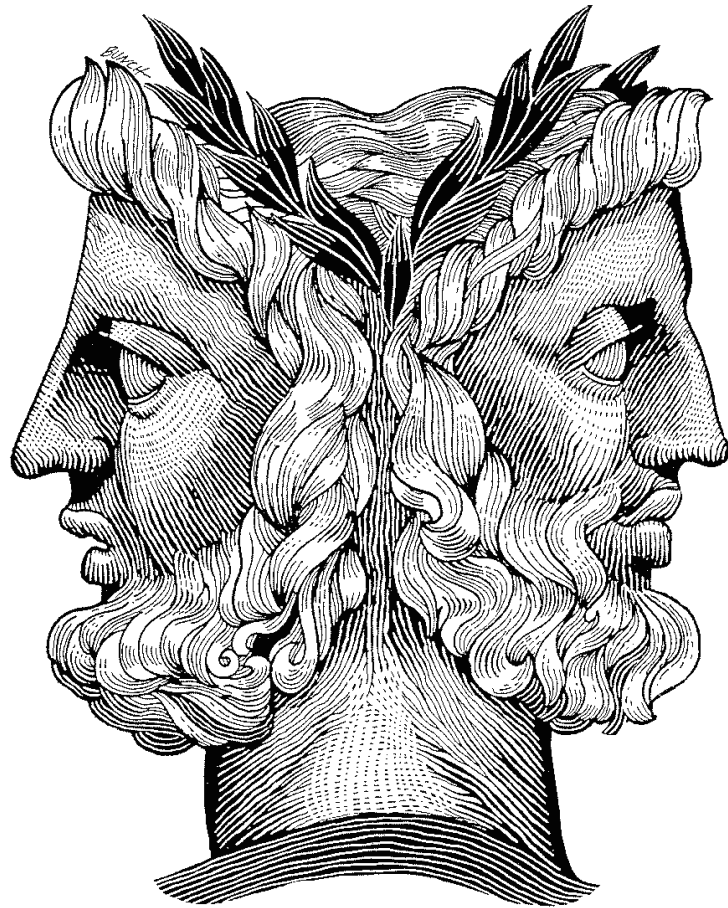


There is nothing so practical as a  
good theory.

— *Kurt Lewin* —

# 1. Make Usual Success More Likely

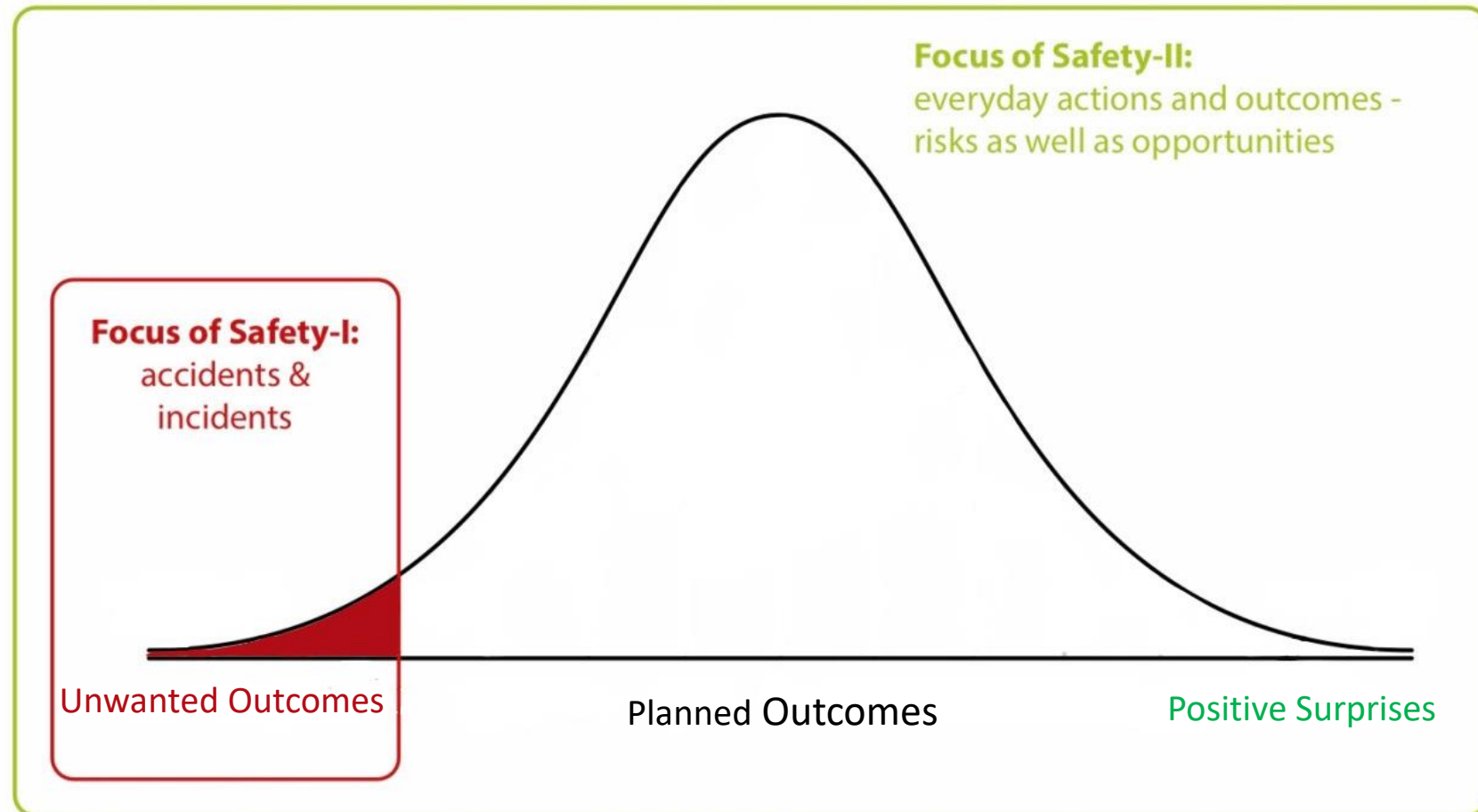
Are you  
making  
**failure**  
less  
likely?



Or usual  
**success**  
more  
likely?



# 2. Learn from all events



# 3. Build Resilient Systems

## Resilience

is the ability of the team/system to

**monitor** and **adjust**

performance to achieve its goals,

even when the unexpected happens.

# Balancing Creativity and Constraint

*"In complex environments, resilience often spells success, while even the most brilliantly engineered fixed solutions are often insufficient or counterproductive."*

**Anticipation**

**Response**

Knowing what  
to  
EXPECT

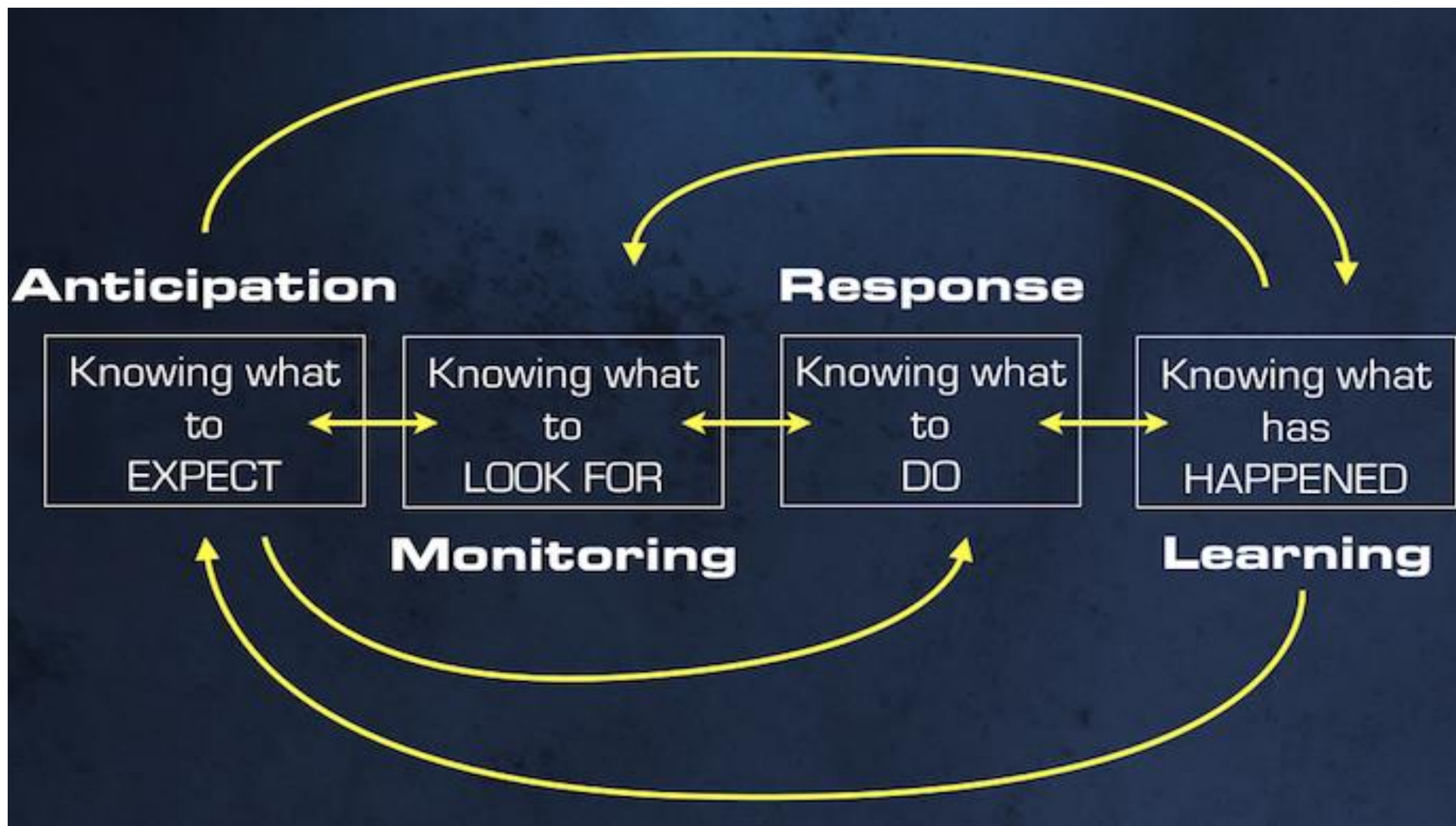
Knowing what  
to  
LOOK FOR

Knowing what  
to  
DO

Knowing what  
has  
HAPPENED

**Monitoring**

**Learning**



# 1. Respond

# Case: Mr T



- 72 year old man
- History of heavy alcohol use
- Smoker - COPD
- AF on dabigatran
- Recurrent falls
- Malnourished
- Lives alone, family visit

- Fall 3 days ago
- Admitted with multiple fractured ribs
- CT Head – atrophy; no bleed
  
- PCA for analgesia
- Admitted for observation
- Alcohol withdrawal scale



# RRT Call to the Ward – 3 days after admission



- Found on floor
- Confused
- Low blood pressure
- Falling oxygen levels
- Fever

Resus chart:

*“wants everything done”*



# Efficiency



Cardiac arrest

# Adaptability



Mr T

# Workshop Question 1 – 10 minutes

Who is “the team” for this patient?

How do you train for adaptability in the setting of **urgency** and **uncertainty**?

The quanta of healthcare = team

# The Law of Requisite Variety

*“The greater the variety of responses,  
the greater the variety of conditions  
the system can cope with”*

First Law of Cybernetics: Ashby, 1956



**Requisite variety**

# A Change in Communication



Team performance in

**Uncertainty**  
and  
**Interdependence**

# Psychological safety

*A shared belief held by the team  
that the team is safe for  
interpersonal risk taking*

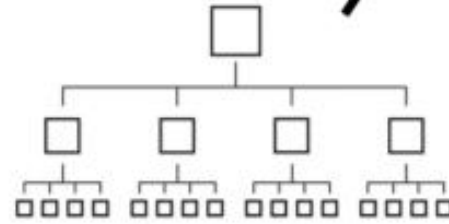
Google “Project Aristotle” (see [rework.withgoogle.com](https://rework.withgoogle.com))





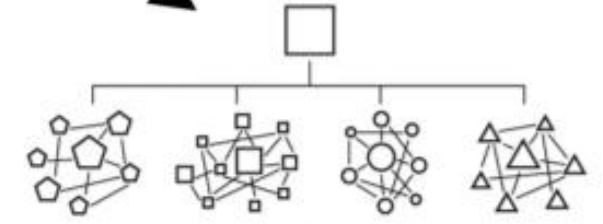
**INTENT BASED LEADERSHIP**  
CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE SO  
THAT THEY FEEL VALUED AND REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

# Cross Boundary Teaming



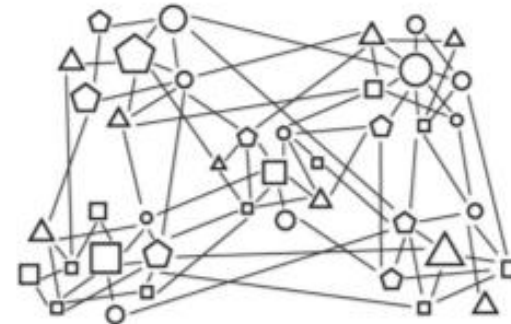
**Command**

*A traditional top-down structure. The connections that matter are between workers and their managers.*



**Command of Teams**

*Small teams operate independently but still within a more rigid superstructure*



**Team of Teams**

*The relationship among teams resembles the closeness among individuals on those teams.*



## CRITICAL CARE COMPLEX

# Team Resilience

### 1 Does everyone know what's going on?

SBAR

PREBRIEF

RECAP

### 2 Does everyone know who is doing what?

- ROLE CLARITY
- LEADERSHIP + ACTIVE FOLLOWERSHIP

### 3 Are we clear in our communication?

- NAMED PERSON
- READ BACK
- CLOSED LOOP

### 4 How do we ensure we reach our goals?

Even when things change?

- ANTICIPATE
- MONITOR
- RESPOND
- LEARN

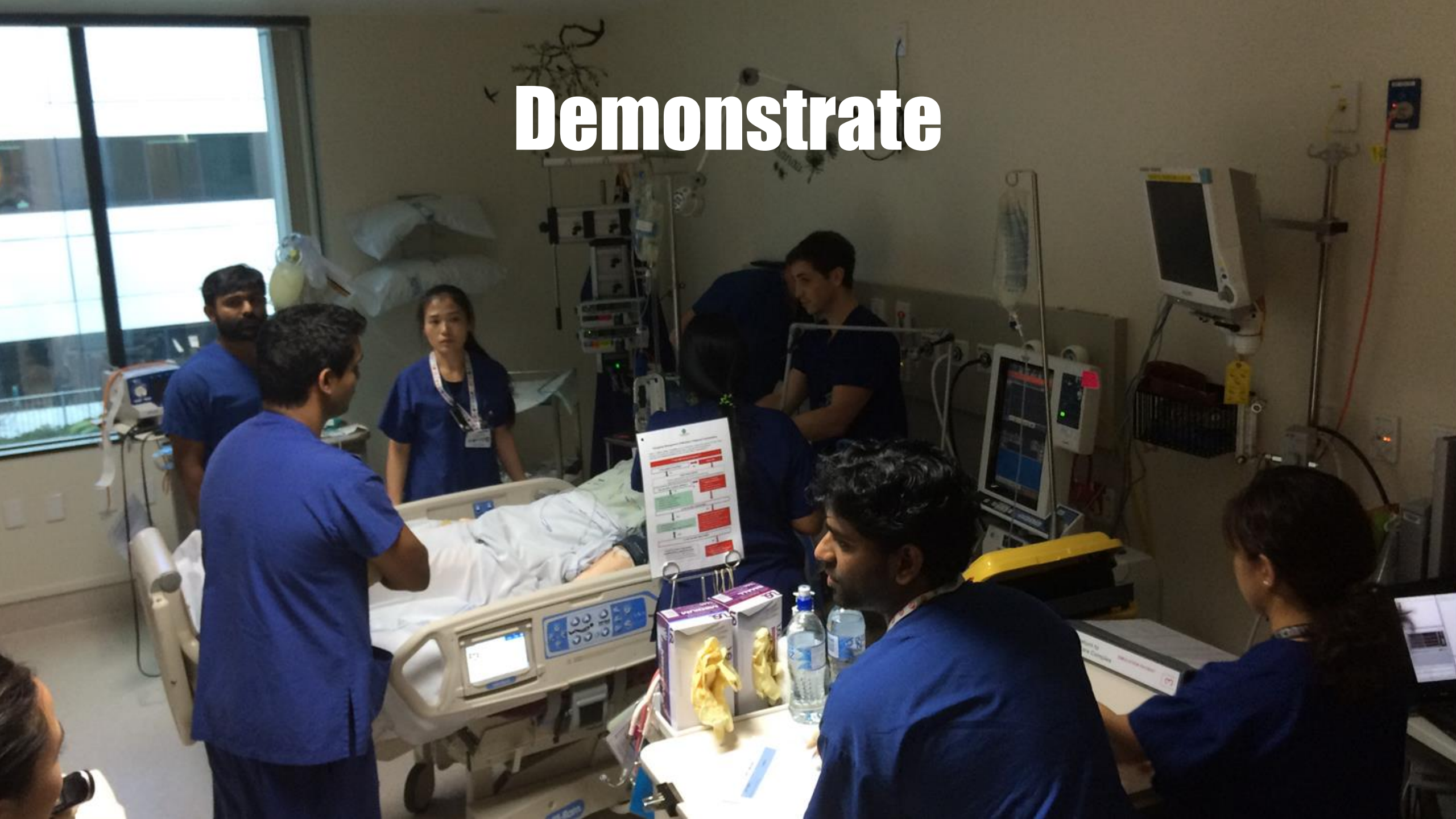
### 5 How do we speak up if we have concerns?

- ENQUIRE
- ADVOCATE
- ASSERT

### 6 How do we make it safe to speak up?

- REDUCING HIERARCHIES
- VALUING SPEAKING UP
- FOCUS ON LEARNING

# Demonstrate



# Reinforce and Model

*“Interwoven into the daily”*

(Credit: Rob Suisted [www.naturespic.com](http://www.naturespic.com))



*“Structured variability”*

**Improved team organising**

**Proactive safety behaviours**

**Psychological Safety**

# Some Surprises

EXPECTATIONS

Followers help leaders lead





# **2. Monitor**

# Mr T: the previous day



↑ Alcohol Withdrawal Scale  
SHO review → diazepam

Increasing productive cough

NZEWS (electronic) had been  
adjusted on day 1 - ↑RR

# Workshop Question 2 – 10 minutes

How would you design the system to make sure that patient deterioration was **never** identified?

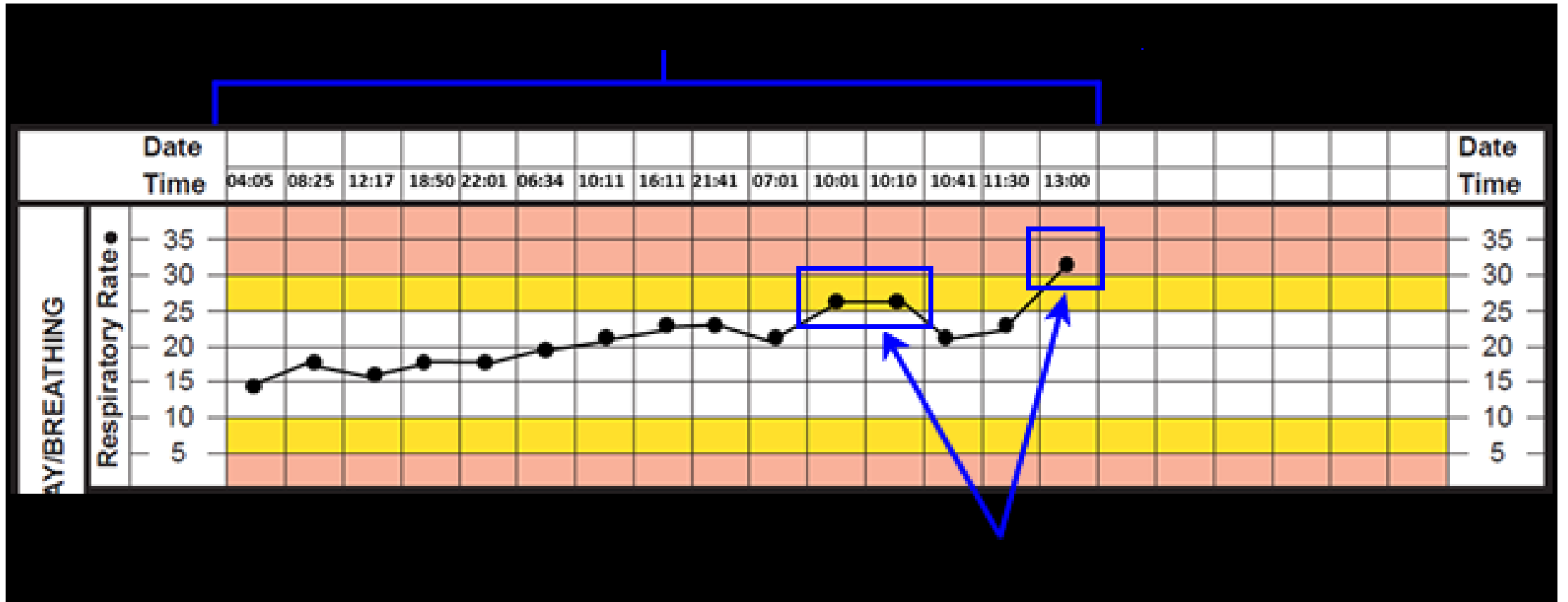
# Knowing what to look for

*Identifying the gap  
between our  
expectations and  
the reality of the  
situation*

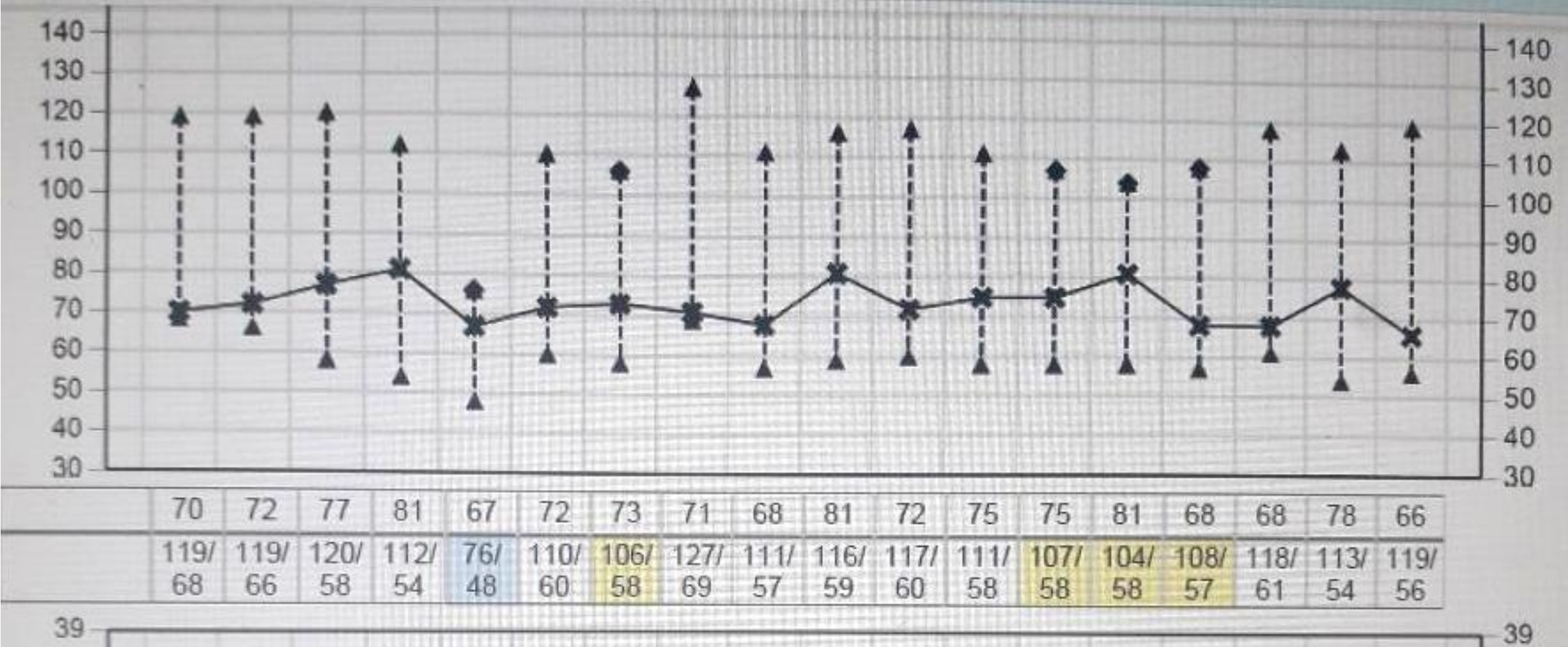


**Tools to make the situation visible**

# Out with the old...



# And in with the new...



# It's Not Just About NZEWS

- Staff non NZEWS referrals to Patient At Risk Team
- Amber Care
- Korero Mai/ Call for Concern

Are all additional potential sources of monitoring **BUT...**



# **3. Anticipate**

# Mr T: an update

- Mr T's daughter arrives
- Upset and surprised that Mr T had deteriorated
- Very concerned about him earlier
- States he has been deteriorating for months and he would not wish for heroic treatments



# **Workshop Question 3 – 10 minutes**

**How could we enable staff to anticipate issues?**

**How could we enable patients/families to anticipate issues?**

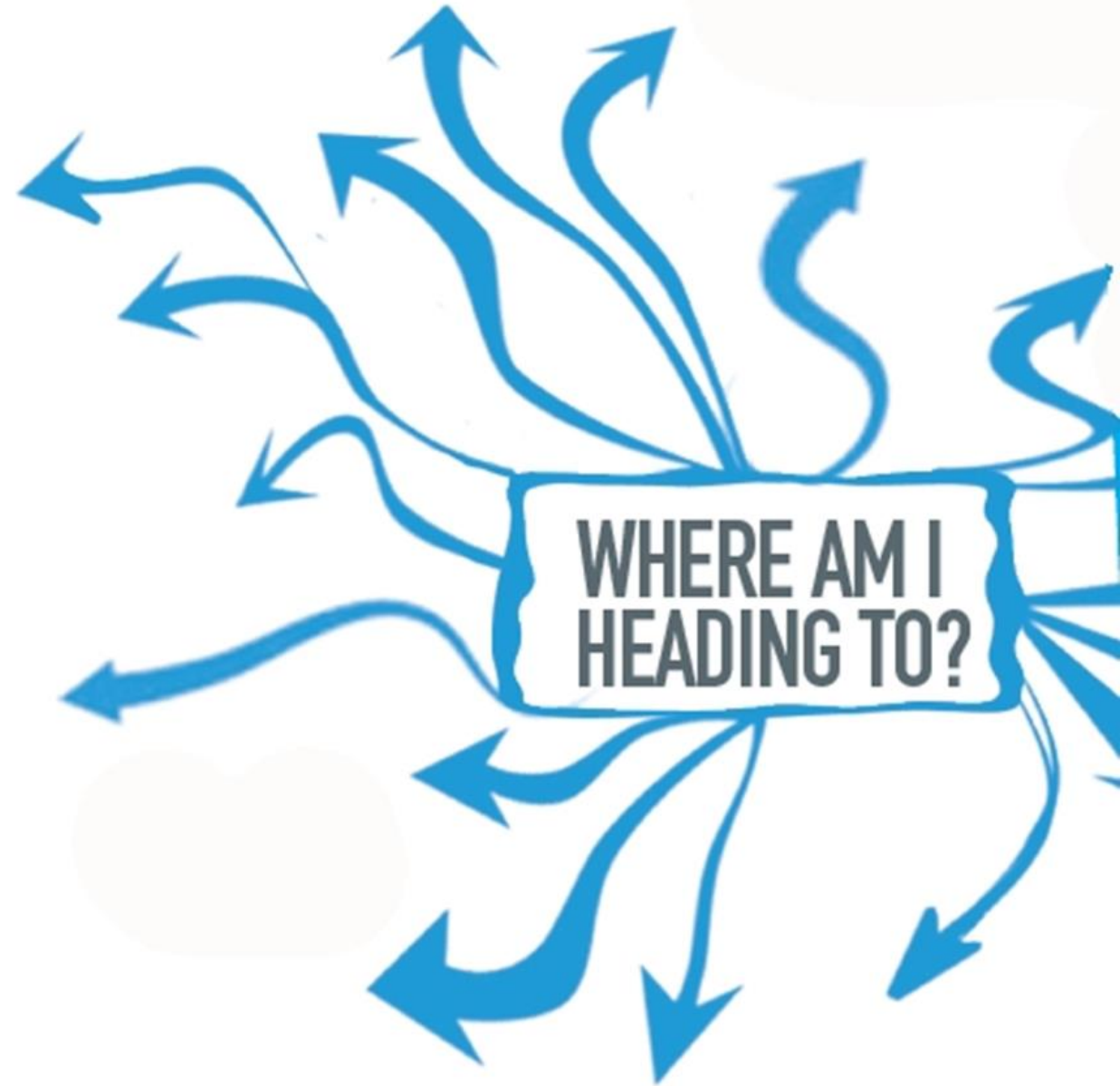
**How do we anticipate the patients wishes if things change?**

# Knowing What to Expect

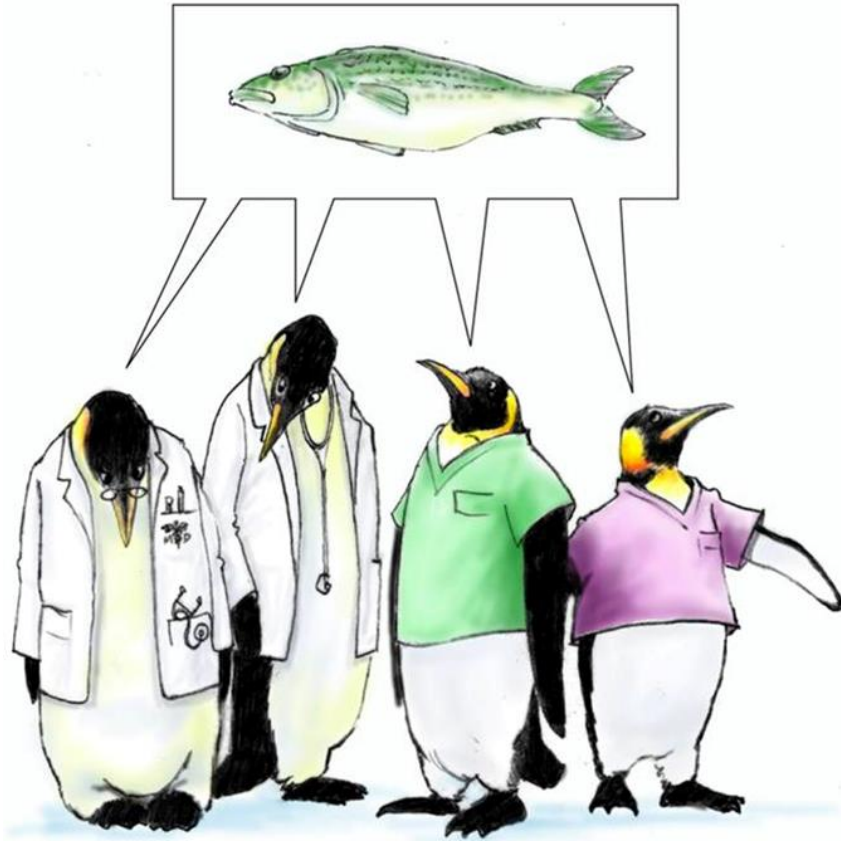
Knowing where we are

Knowing what SHOULD happen

Knowing what MIGHT happen



# Anticipation



Hinges on building a shared understanding of:

- The current situation
- What should happen
- What might happen
- The values/wishes of the patient
- What we will do if things change

# 4. Learn

# Mr T: an update

- Changed to focus on comfort and continues to deteriorate
- Mr T's son-in-law makes an HDC complaint about the failure to recognise deterioration earlier
- The HDC wants you to write a new policy and resus form



*“When we fix the wrong thing for the wrong reason,  
the problems continue to happen.*

*It’s costly and demoralizing”*



# Knowing What Has Happened

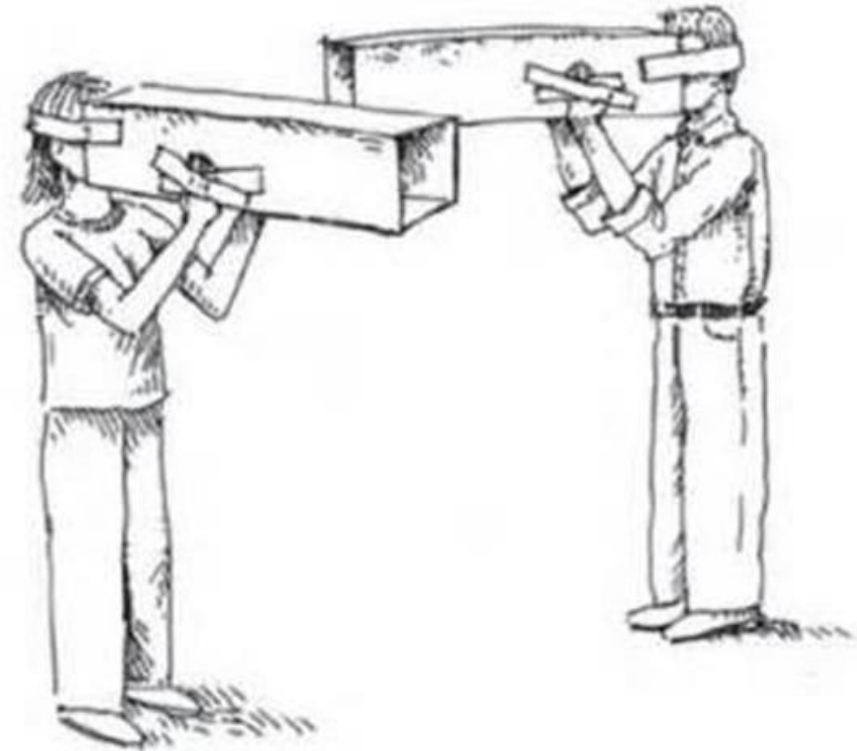
Safety II looks at usual success  
to understand rare failures

Requires understanding  
Work- as-Done,  
not just Work-as-Imagined



# Local Rationality

*People do things that make sense to them, given their goals, understanding of the situation and focus of attention at that time.*



**WAD**

**MIND**

**THE**

**GAP**

**WAI**



*Clinicians are the only ones who have fundamental knowledge about the workflows that define their care. But they don't control the systems that set the context within which they work. The key question for a leader is, how do we make it easy for them to do it right?"*

*"If culture eats strategy for breakfast,*

*infrastructure eats culture for lunch"*

Brent James, Chief Quality Officer  
Intermountain Healthcare  
NEJM Catalyst July 2017

# Workshop Question 4 – 10 minutes

- How would you find out about Work-as-Done on a ward?
- How would you ensure any new rules are followable?

# A Fundamental Change of Perspective



# A Resilient System for Deteriorating Patients

<b>ANTICIPATE</b>	Advanced Care Planning and Goals of Care Building a shared understanding AMBER care bundle
<b>MONITOR</b>	NZEWS Korero Mai
<b>RESPOND</b>	Rapid response teams PAR/outreach
<b>LEARN</b>	Understanding Work-as-Done Making usual success easier

# Summary

- We work in a complex adaptive system, not a factory
- People and teams are your key resource in creating safety
- Design your systems to make it easier for them



# Singing and hand holding



*“The mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions”*

*Oliver Wendell Holmes*

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