

Balancing Accountability in Patient Safety

The patient safety movement has evolved with a "no blame" culture in its approach to error management, focusing on system-level failures rather than those of the individual. In their *Perspective on Safety* [1], Dr. Christopher Moriates and Dr. Robert M. Wachter say that while the systems approach (think of James Reason's Swiss Cheese Model [2]) was critical to the cultivation and advancement of the patient safety movement, systems-based solutions may not be adequate for all errors. They call for a balance of the "no blame" culture with individual accountability, and suggest that the interdependencies of these two approaches may result in a more appropriate accountability in patient safety. Read more about their perspective here [1]. Our intention with ASCENT is to exercise patient-centered methodologies to design and develop patient safety solutions that reimagine not just technology innovations, but also roles, responsibilities, and organizational culture.

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Links

[1] <https://psnet.ahrq.gov/perspectives/perspective/189>

[2] <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1117770/>