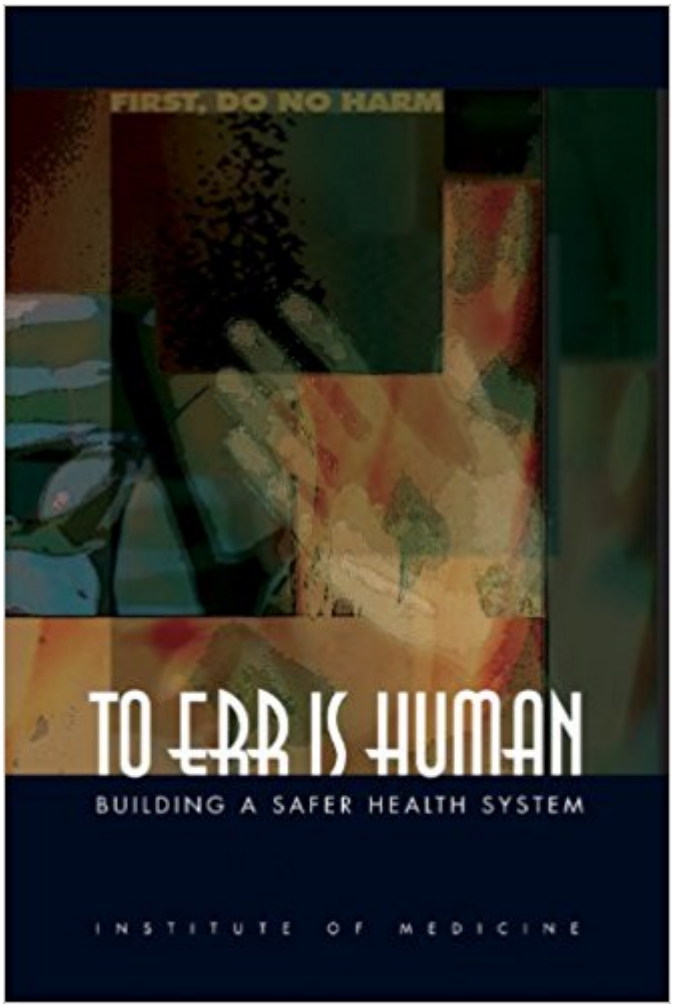
To Err Is Human: Building A Safer Health System



Synopsis

Experts estimate that as many as 98,000 people die in any given year from medical errors that occur in hospitals. That's more than die from motor vehicle accidents, breast cancer, or AIDS--three causes that receive far more public attention. Indeed, more people die annually from medication errors than from workplace injuries. Add the financial cost to the human tragedy, and medical error easily rises to the top ranks of urgent, widespread public problems. To Err Is Human breaks the silence that has surrounded medical errors and their consequence--but not by pointing fingers at caring health care professionals who make honest mistakes. After all, to err is human. Instead, this book sets forth a national agenda--with state and local implications--for reducing medical errors and improving patient safety through the design of a safer health system. This volume reveals the often startling statistics of medical error and the disparity between the incidence of error and public perception of it, given many patients' expectations that the medical profession always performs perfectly. A careful examination is made of how the surrounding forces of legislation, regulation, and market activity influence the quality of care provided by health care organizations and then looks at their handling of medical mistakes. Using a detailed case study, the book reviews the current understanding of why these mistakes happen. A key theme is that legitimate liability concerns discourage reporting of errors--which begs the question, "How can we learn from our mistakes?" Balancing regulatory versus market-based initiatives and public versus private efforts, the Institute of Medicine presents wide-ranging recommendations for improving patient safety, in the areas of leadership, improved data collection and analysis, and development of effective systems at the level of direct patient care. To Err Is Human asserts that the problem is not bad people in health care--it is that good people are working in bad systems that need to be made safer. Comprehensive and straightforward, this book offers a clear prescription for raising the level of patient safety in American health care. It also explains how patients themselves can influence the quality of care that they receive once they check into the hospital. This book will be vitally important to federal, state, and local health policy makers and regulators, health professional licensing officials, hospital administrators, medical educators and students, health caregivers, health journalists, patient advocates--as well as patients themselves. First in a series of publications from the Quality of Health Care in America, a project initiated by the Institute of Medicine

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Customer Reviews

Linda T. Kohn, Janet M. Corrigan, and Molla S. Donaldson, Editors; Committee on Quality of Health Care in America, Institute of Medicine

The IOH, Institute of Health, published two exhaustive reports on healthcare: To Err is Human and Crossing the Quality Chasm. They are dry, academic, ponderous and difficult to read. However they are two of the most important books written about healthcare in the United States and mandatory reading for anyone in the field of medicine. Virtually every other book on improving healthcare quotes or uses the research from these two books.Healthcare is under a radical transformation based on enormous economic and demand pressures. In order to be successful we have to understand the system, warts and all. We have to have solutions based on empirical peer reviewed data. These IOH reports do just that. While they may seem dated and many of the initiatives advocated by these books are well underway, these books remain ’bibles’ of a sort for understanding the US medical system. I strongly recommend reading this books because so much of the current reform, language, and subsequent published literature is based on these two reports.I recently attended a training by Intermountain Healthcare in UT - the hospital system discussed during the election debates. The CFO quoted from these books. That is just one illustration of how influential and important these books are. Even if you don’t work in medicine these books will help you manage and direct your own care. Read also "Overtreated" by Shannon Brownlee, which also uses IOH data and research.Not easy reads but few important reads are.

THE BOOK WAS OK, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS DOWNLOADABLE FOR FREE ON THE IHI SITE. UGH.

Required college text. It is good but I much prefer the book by Johnathan Bush.

important research that every medical practitioner from doctor to STNA should read.

Great resource for anyone in the medical profession.

Good book

Very factual and east to understand.

It's an old work but the first great step for quality assurance in health. Every one who want to work in this matter must read it

To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System TO ERR IS HUMAN, TO FORGIVE DIVINE - However Neither is Marine Corps Policy Health Communication: From Theory to Practice (J-B Public Health/Health Services Text) - Key words: health communication, public health, health behavior, behavior change communications Epidemic of Care: A Call for Safer, Better, and More Accountable Health Care Nursing: Human Science And Human Care (Watson, Nursing: Human Science and Human Care) Apple Cider Vinegar: Miracle Health System (Bragg Apple Cider Vinegar Miracle Health System: With the Bragg Healthy Lifestyle) The Lymphatic's System Role for Ultimate Health and Energy: An Easy Guide to Activating the Lymphatic System, Optimum Health & Energy and Curing Disorders Strategic Marketing For Health Care Organizations: Building A Customer-Driven Health System Understanding Human Behavior: A Guide for Health Care Providers (Communication and Human Behavior for Health Science) The Practical Pilot (Volume One): A PilotÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Common Sense Guide to Safer Flying. Black & Decker Deck Codes & Standards: How to Design, Build, Inspect & Maintain a Safer Deck HypnoBirthing, Fourth Edition: The natural approach to safer, easier, more comfortable birthing - The Mongan Method, 4th Edition Creating a Healthy Household: The Ultimate Guide for Healthier, Safer, Less-Toxic Living GOING GREEN USING DIATOMACEOUS EARTH HOW-TO TIPS: An Easy Guide Book Using A Safer Alternative, Natural Silica Mineral, Food Grade Insecticide: Practical consumer tips, recipes, and

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