

# Cultural Change for Quality, Patient Safety and Value

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# Safety is the coming issue

- Traditional healthcare concerns are being addressed
- Infection control issues have focussed attention on one major safety issue
- There is growing academic attention on the issues of safety
- There is more data in the public domain

# How Hazardous Is Health Care?

(Leape and Amalberti)



# ...and where have we been as a leadership community?

- Selective (NB our application of *Primum non nocere*)
- Slow
- Driven by external not internal motivations
- Lacking in knowledge
- Culturally careless



- Clear, tough targets
- Regulation – e.g. Hygiene Codes
- Incentives – e.g. non payment for harm
- Information – e.g. public data sets
- Quality Improvement work

Not knowing what to do is no longer an excuse

**But the issue is how to do it**

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**And that is about culture**

**Creating a culture of safety: Eight suggestions**

- 1. Re-learn to be horrified by harm and communicate that throughout your organisation**





Extra line breaks in this message were removed.

From: URHM.DOH\_DMZ.DOH\_EXT.DOH@dh.gsi.gov.uk Sent: Mon 14/01/2008 17:56  
To: Sarah Mussett; Katherine Fenton; Jim Easton; Diana Emerick-Law; Olga Senior; Olga Senior  
Cc:  
Subject: ACTUAL - Untoward incident alert at [REDACTED] NHS Trust. Type: Unexpected Death of Inpatient (not in receipt) (log number: 2008/366)

Please follow one of the links below to open the incident form (log number: 2008/366)

<http://nww.steis.doh.nhs.uk/steis/untoward.nsf/0/2D7917E3407F4434802573D0006276A1?opendocument>

or

<http://nww.steis-classa.dh.nhs.uk/steis/untoward.nsf/0/2D7917E3407F4434802573D0006276A1?opendocument>

- - Disclaimer - -

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**2. Learn to love the routinely good but hate mediocrity**



# Hating mediocrity

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**3. Actively support safety driven challenges to inappropriate use of hierarchy**

15:59:51 CA It's spooled. Real cold, real cold.

15:59:58 F/O **God, look at that thing. That don't seem right, does it? Uh, that's not right**

16:00:09 CA Yes it is, there's eighty

16:00:10 F/O **Naw, I don't think that's right. Ah, maybe it is.**

16:00:21 CA CAM-1 Hundred and twenty.

16:00:23 F/O CAM-2 **I don't know**

16:00:31 CA Vee-one. Easy, vee-two

16:00:39 [Sound of stick shaker starts and continues until impact]

16:00:41 TWR Palm 90 contact departure control.

16:00:45 CA Forward, forward, easy. We only want five hundred.

16:00:48 CA Come on forward....forward, just barely climb.

16:00:59 CA Stalling, we're falling!

16:01:00 F/O Larry, we're going down, Larry....

16:01:01 CA I know it.

16:01:01 [Sound of impact]





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**4. Be conscious about how your leadership reaction to incidents drives culture**





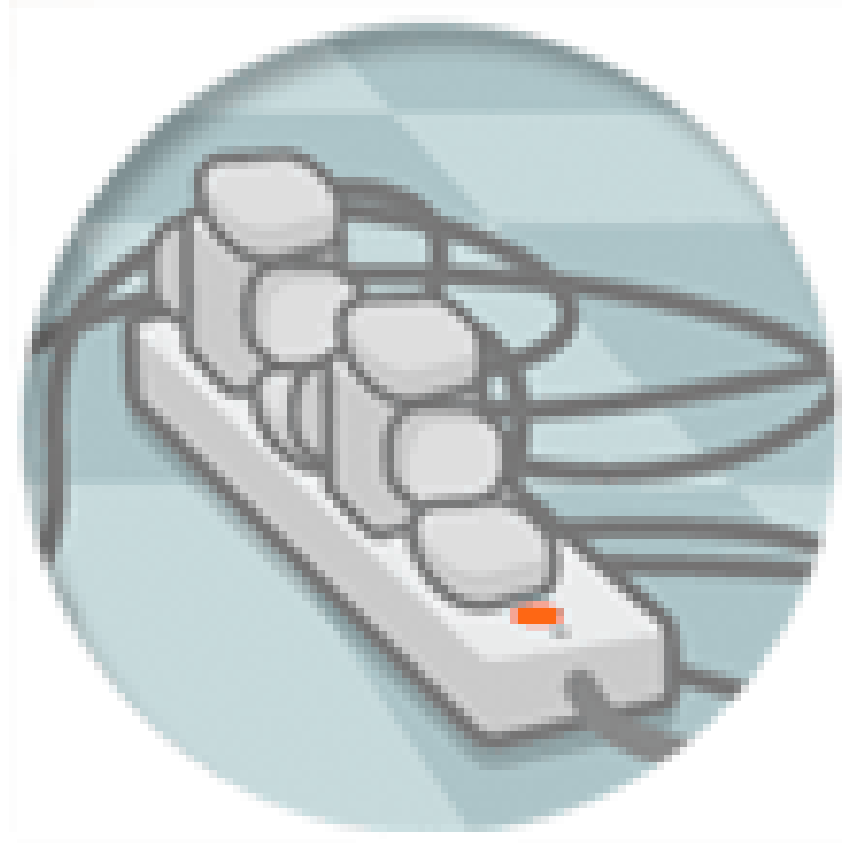
**Punishment**

**Protection**

**Sanctions**

**Rewards**

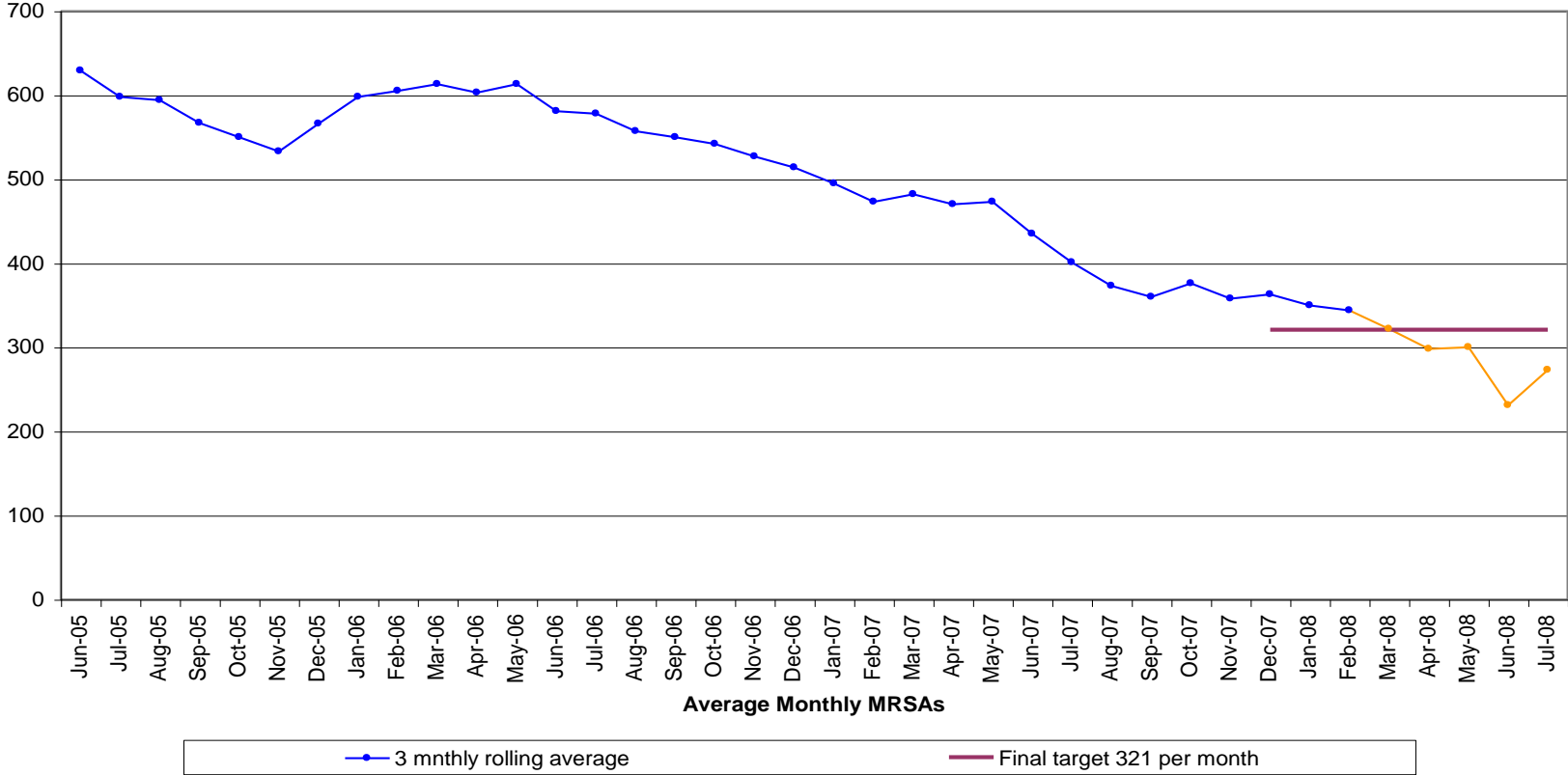
## 5. Deliver on small changes



# 6. Set the right targets at the right level

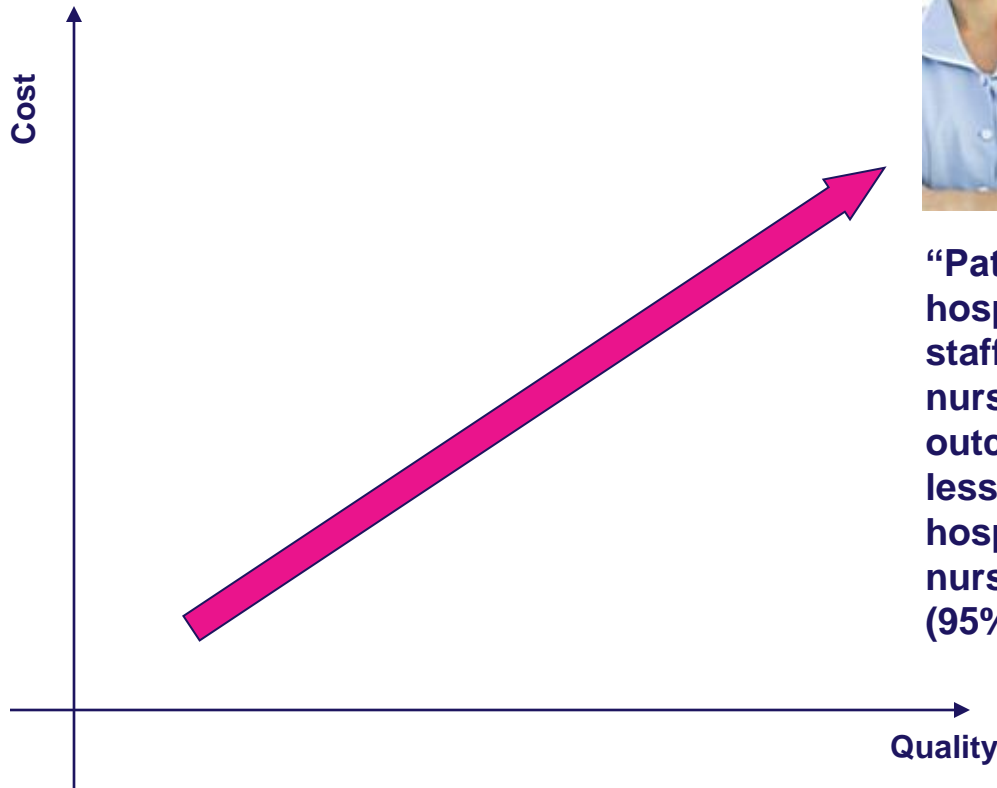


3 monthly rolling average MRSA levels April 2005 to July 2008 in comparison with trajectories, final target and projection based on assumption of continuation of trend since March 2006 ALL CASES



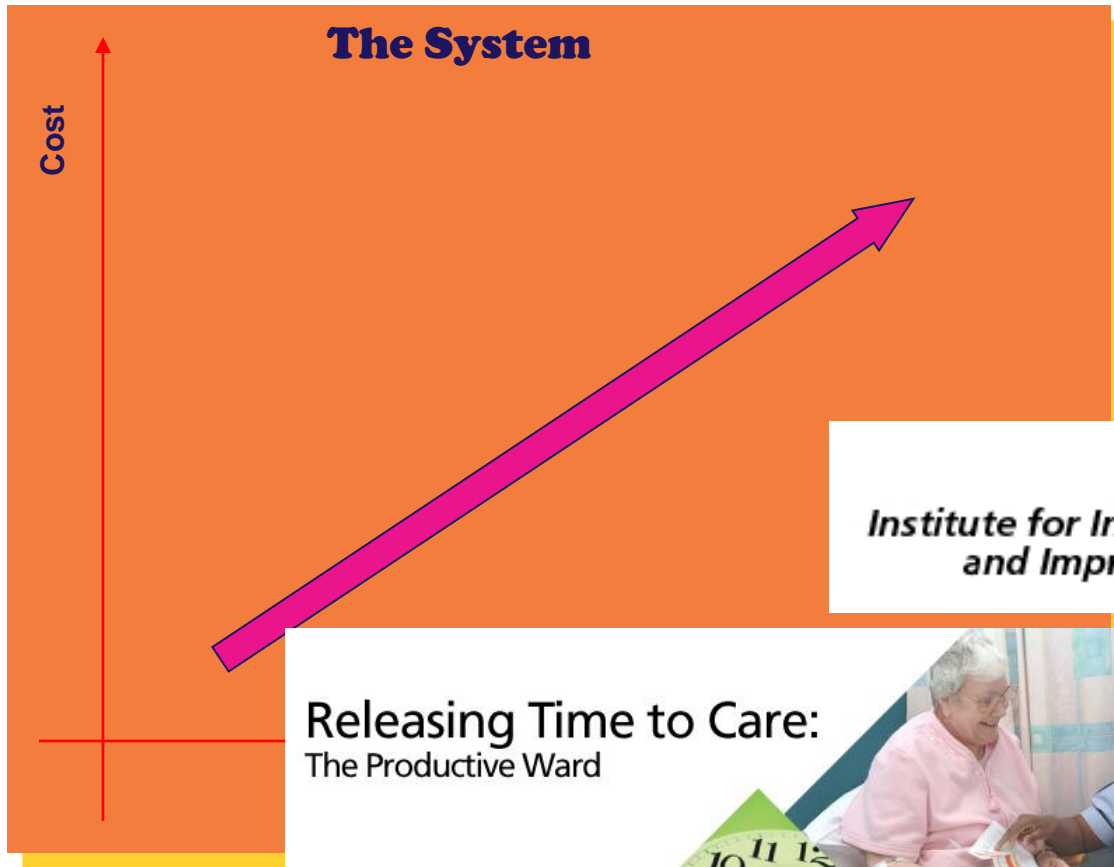
## **7. Tackle the cost/quality belief system**

## Our cost/quality belief system



**“Patients and nurses in the quartile of hospitals with the most favourable staffing levels (the lowest patient-to-nurse ratios) had consistently better outcomes than those in hospitals with less favourable staffing. Patients in the hospitals with the highest patient to nurse ratios had 26% higher mortality (95% CI: 12-49%)”\***

**Rafferty, Clarke, Coles, Ball, et al. Outcomes of variation in hospital nurse staffing in English hospitals: Cross-sectional analysis of survey data and discharge records, International Journal of Nursing Studies. Oxford: Feb 2007. Vol. 44.**



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# 8. Model Learning and Spread



- Safety – it was the coming issue – it's here
- There is no shortage of well evidenced interventions that will drive safety improvement
- Take leadership action on culture to drive these interventions into reality