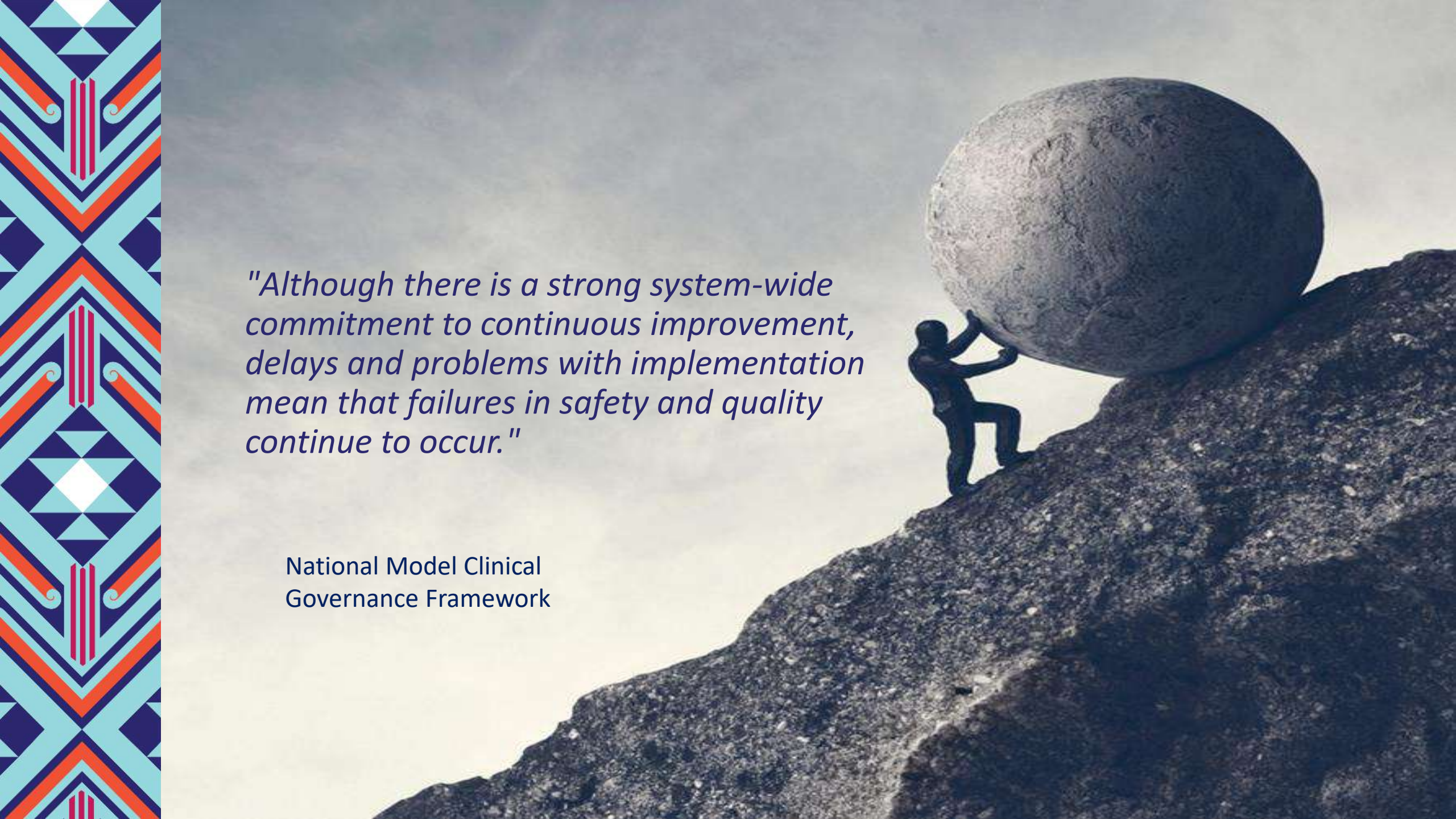




**Te Tāhū Hauora**  
Health Quality & Safety  
Commission

# Healing learning and improving from harm 2023

November 2023

A person in silhouette is pushing a large, smooth, grey boulder up a steep, dark, rocky hill. The person is positioned at the base of the boulder, leaning against it with their arms extended. The hill is composed of dark, jagged rocks. The background is a pale, overcast sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of struggle and perseverance.

*"Although there is a strong system-wide commitment to continuous improvement, delays and problems with implementation mean that failures in safety and quality continue to occur."*

National Model Clinical  
Governance Framework





**Not meeting the needs of  
those harmed...**

...including health care workers



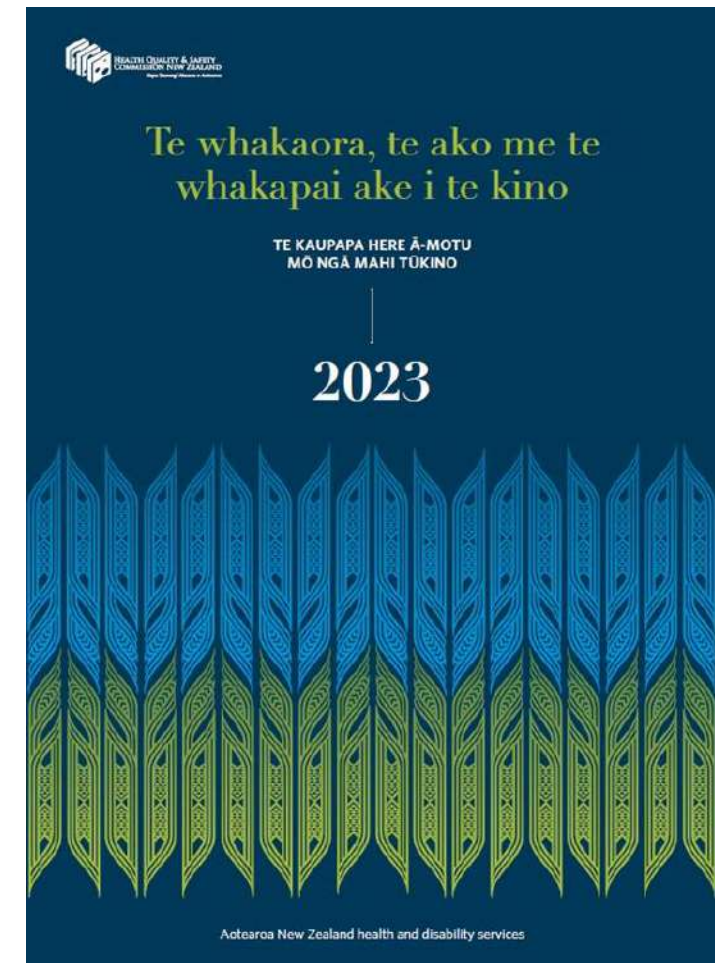
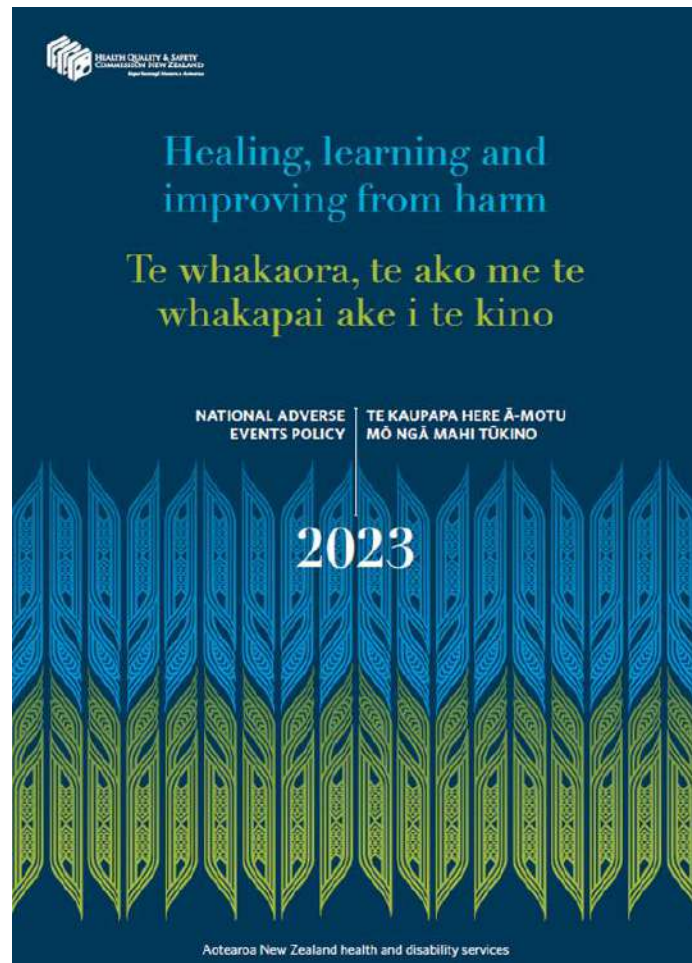
# Rationale

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlV5Brtc4Uk>



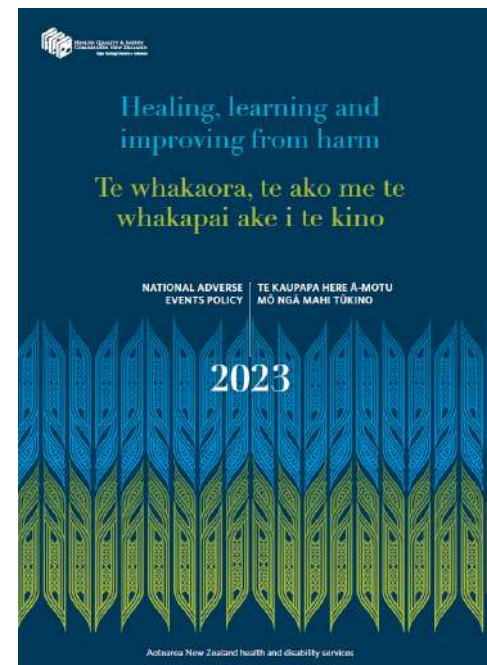


# Healing, learning and improving from harm 2023



# Revised policy principles

- Consumer and whānau participation
- Culturally responsive practice
- Equity
- Open communication
- Restorative practice and hohou te rongo (restorative responses)
- Safe reporting
- System accountability
- System learning





# Definition of harm

## **Harm:**

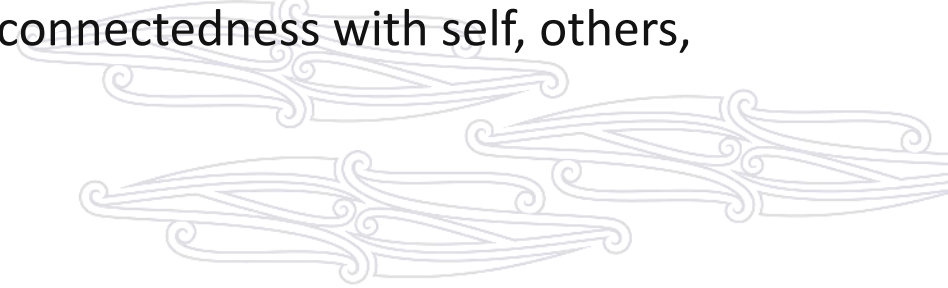
Negative consequences for consumers and whānau directly arising from or associated with plans made, actions taken or omissions during the provision of health care rather than an underlying disease or injury.







# Harm may be...

- **Physical:** harm that leads to bodily injury or impairment or disease. This includes limitations in cognitive functioning and skills, including communication, social and self-care skills
  - **Psychological:** harm that causes mental or emotional trauma or that causes behavioural change or physical symptoms
  - **Cultural:** the marginalisation of a consumer's belief and value systems
  - **Spiritual:** (also known as spiritual distress) – a state of suffering, related to the impaired ability to experience meaning in life through connectedness with self, others, world or a superior being.
- 



# New SAC ratings

## SAC descriptors for the rating of harm

### SAC 1: severe

Death or harm causing severe loss of function and/or requiring life-saving intervention

- Not related to natural course of illness or treatment
- Differs from immediate expected outcome of care
- Can be physical, psychological, cultural or spiritual

### SAC 2: major

Harm causing major loss of function and/or requiring significant intervention

- Not related to natural course of illness or treatment
- Differs from immediate expected outcome of care
- Can be physical, psychological, cultural or spiritual

### SAC 3: moderate

Harm causing short-term loss of function and/or requiring minimal additional intervention

- Not related to natural course of illness or treatment
- Differs from immediate expected outcome of care
- Can be physical, psychological, cultural or spiritual

### SAC 4: minor

Requires little or no intervention

- Extra investigation or observation
- Review by another clinician
- Minor treatment
- Can be physical, psychological, cultural or spiritual


Includes near misses



# Embracing Te Ao Māori

- Māori involvement and oversight at all stages of development
- Incorporating the principles of WAI2575 Hauora Report
  - Partnership
  - Options
  - Tino rangatiratanga
  - Active protection
  - Equity
- Acknowledgement of *wairuatanga* as an important part of hauora

Patient safety and hospital visiting  
at the end of life during COVID-19  
restrictions in Aotearoa New  
Zealand: a qualitative study

Aileen Collier,<sup>1</sup> Deborah Balmer ,<sup>2,3</sup> Eileen Gilder,<sup>3,4</sup>  
Rachael Parke <sup>3,4</sup>

Te Whakatara!—Tangihanga and bereavement COVID-19

Tess Moeke-Maxwell, Linda Waimarie Nikora, Kathleen Mason, and Melissa Carey



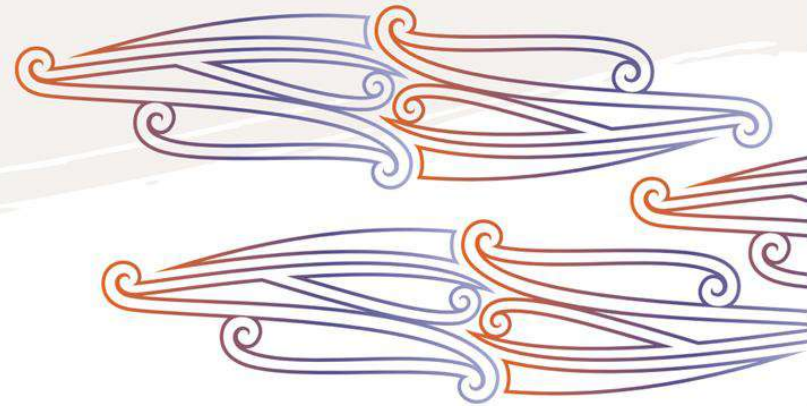
# Elevating the voice of consumers and whānau

## Code of expectations

for health entities' engagement  
with consumers and whānau

### Context

The code of expectations for health entities'  
engagement with consumers and whānau (the code)



# The need to be 'seen' through sharing experience

"It was initially very difficult for me to read. This was because it encapsulated what we would have liked to have happen for us, when 'our voice' was not sought and we felt 'unseen'.

I sincerely hope that this new policy, if implemented well, will enable the voice of the consumers and whānau to be heard through a more robust, compassionate, restorative adverse event process."



(consumer EY)





# Restorative practice and Ho hou te rongo

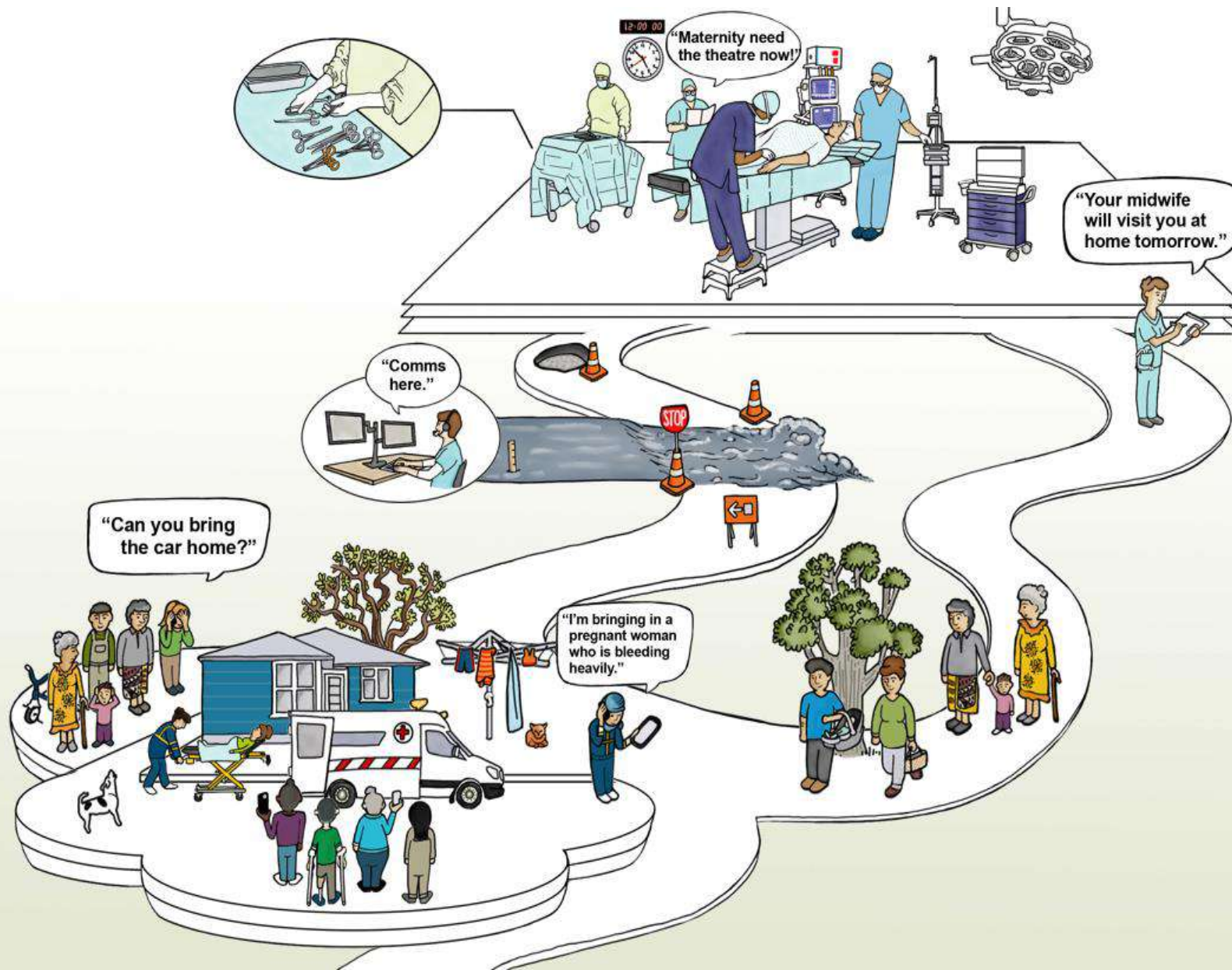






The new approach?

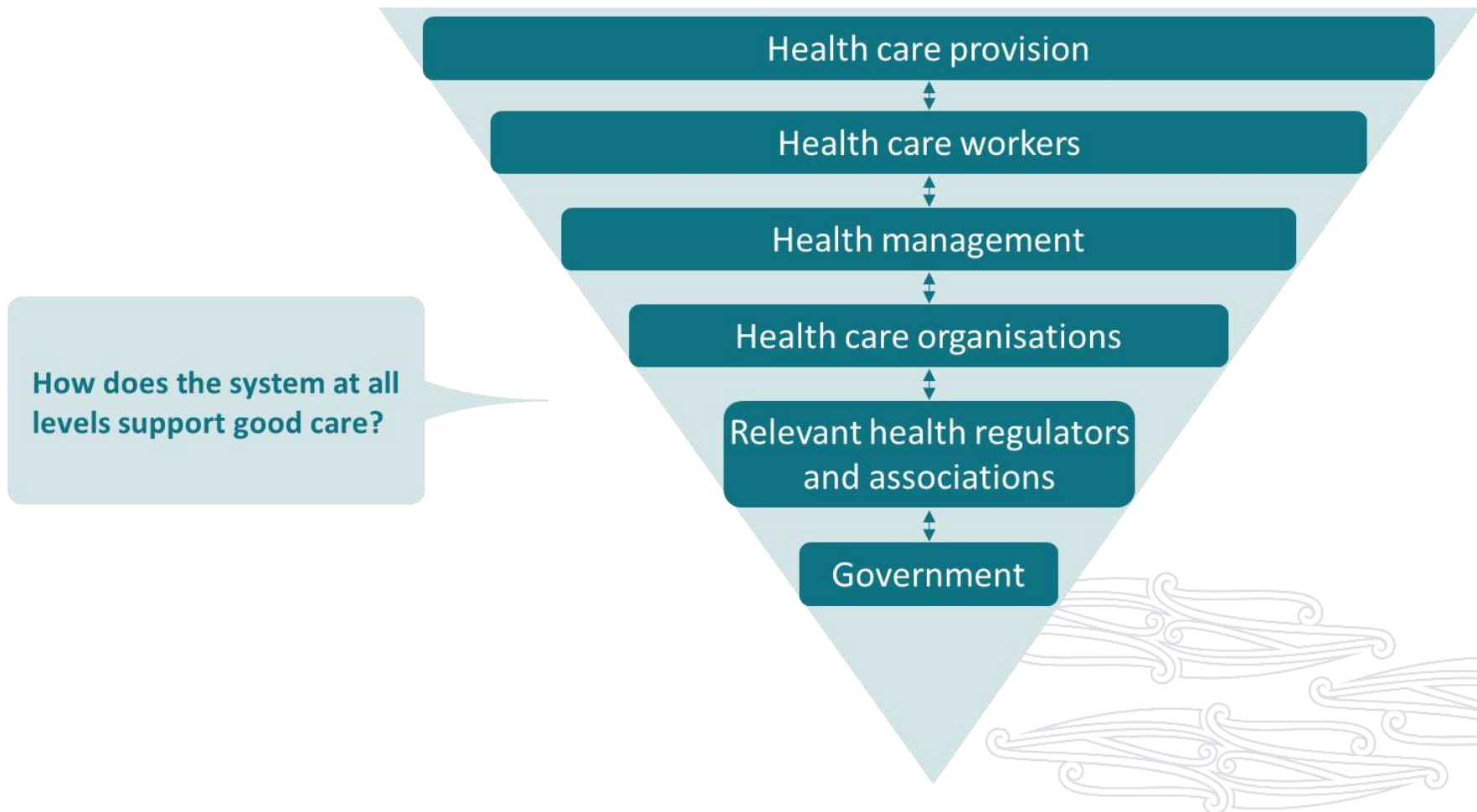




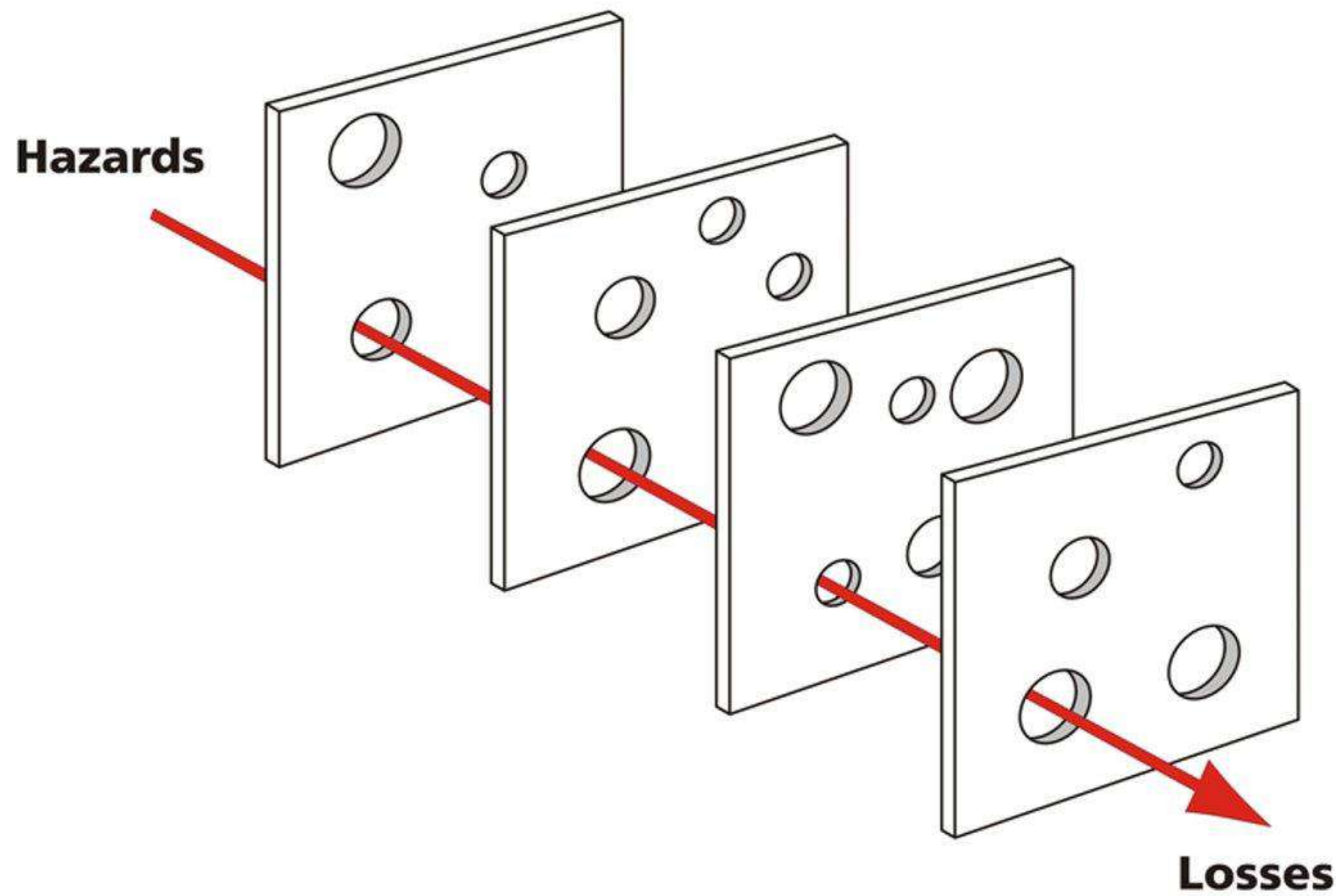
It's **not** about people **or** systems...

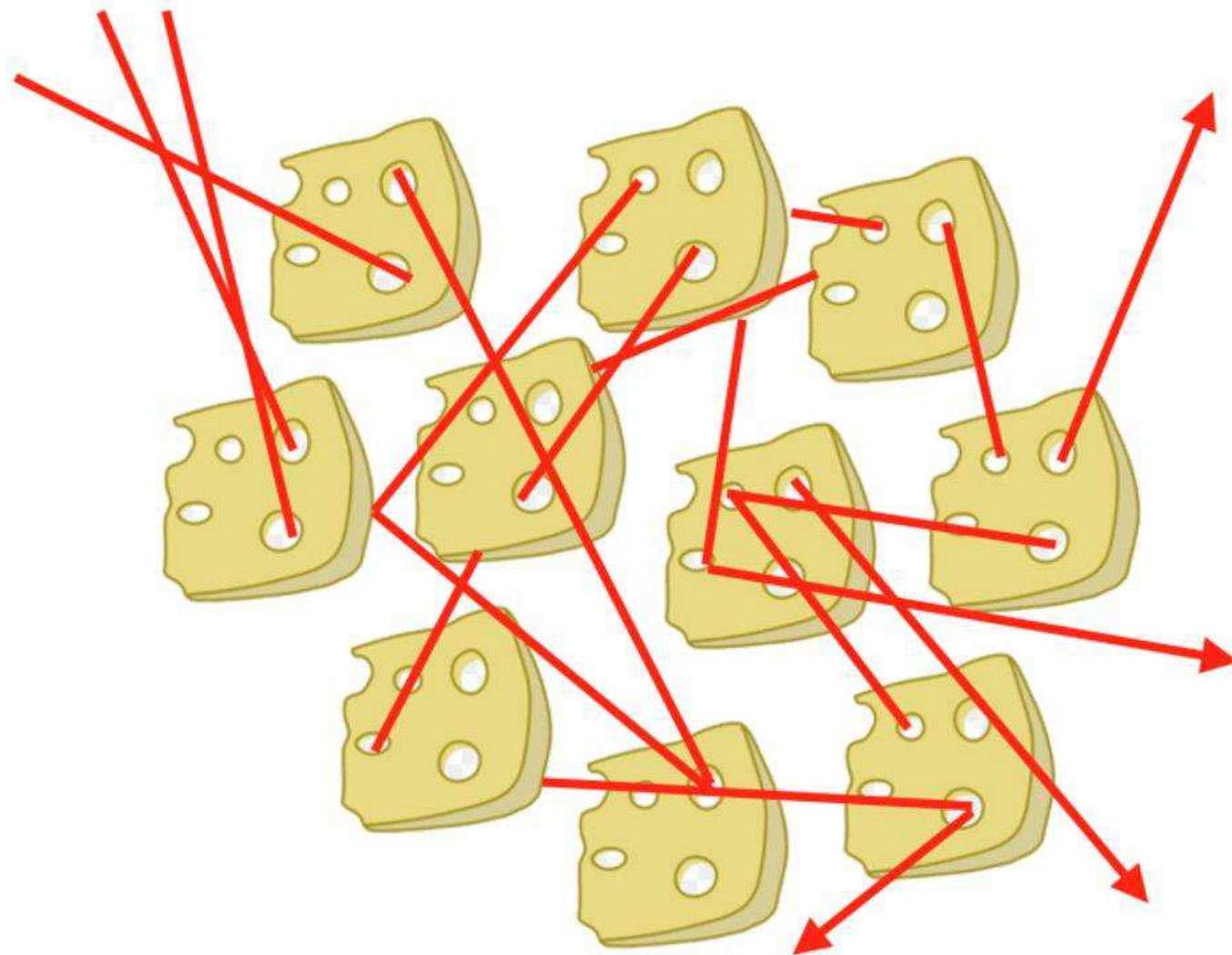
...it's about people **in** systems

## ...and thinking in Social Systems







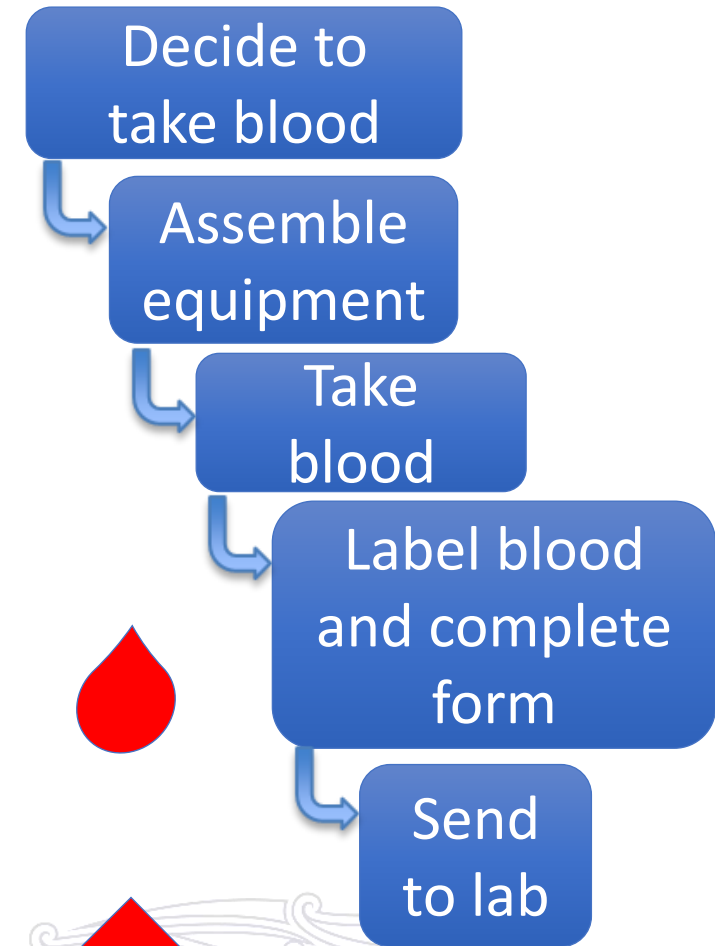


Rhizome model, Robert Long Australia

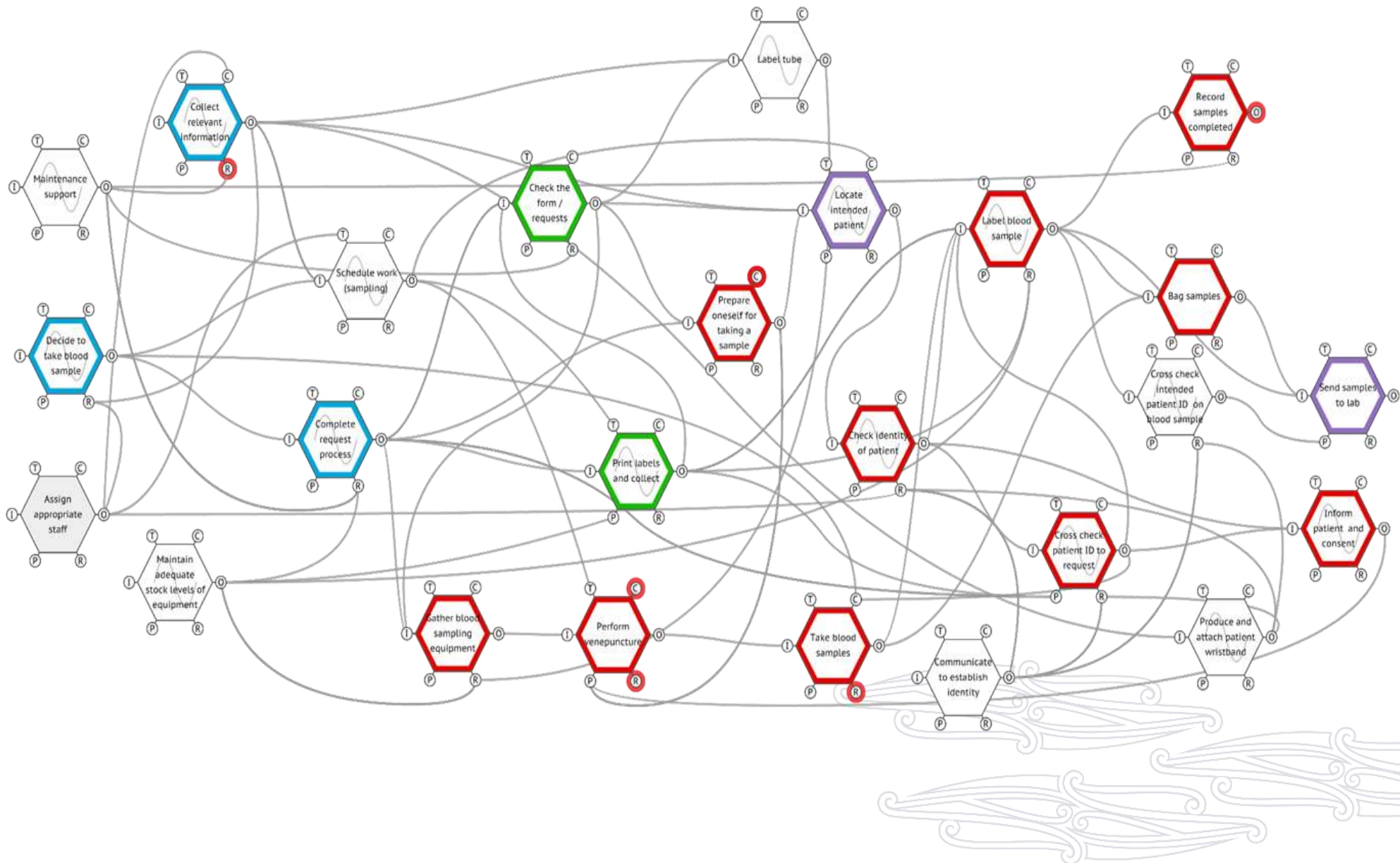


# Health care complexity

'Simple' act of taking a blood sample



Linear?

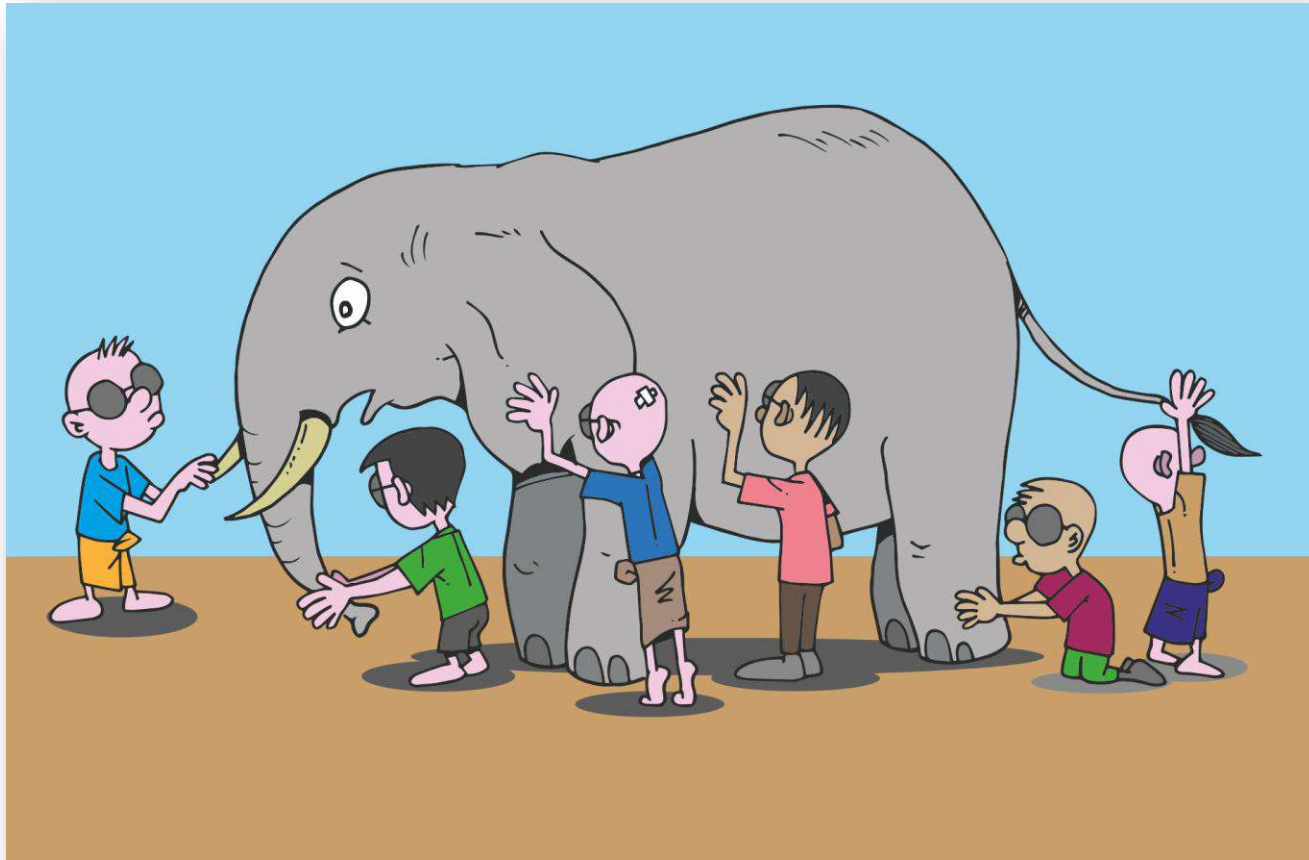


(Pickup L, Hollnagel E, Bowie P, et al. 2017. Blood sampling - Two sides to the story. *Applied Ergonomics*.)



# Understanding

Why do the things we do make sense at the time?



## “Work-As-Done”

the messy reality of everyday work as experienced by those who do the work



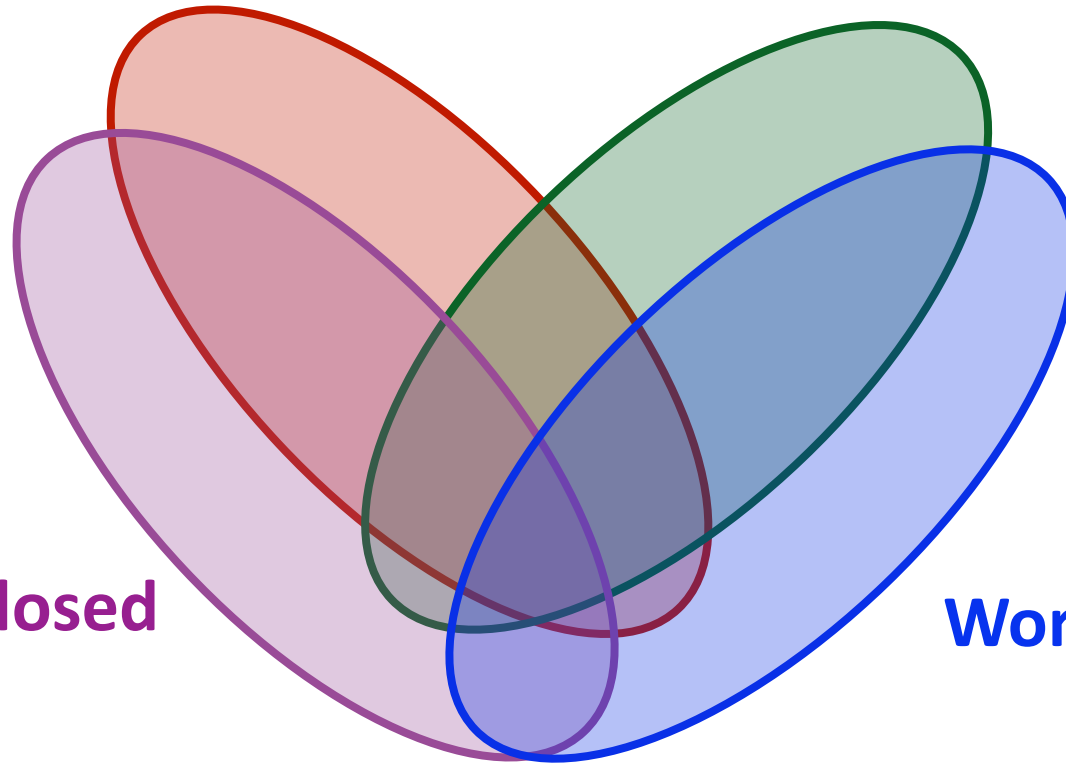
# The realities of work as done

**Work as imagined**

**Work as prescribed**

**Work as disclosed**

**Work as done**







An illustration of a person with dark hair, wearing a purple t-shirt and blue pants, sitting on the floor with their head down. Five hands of different colors (purple, blue, teal, pink, and orange) are pointing towards the person from the top, left, and right. The background is a light pink color with a decorative geometric pattern on the left side.

Could have...

Would have...

Should have...

We discuss what **DIDN'T** happen rather than explain what **DID**

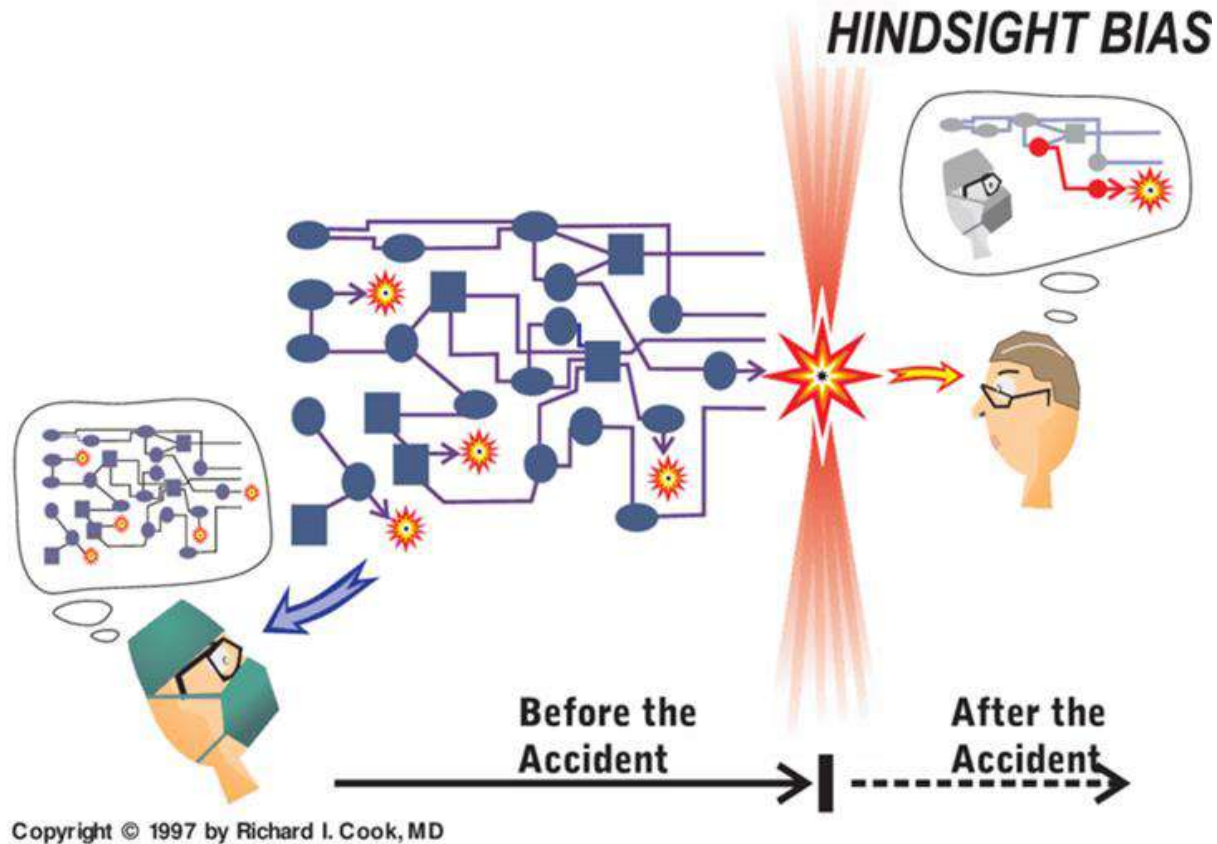


# So why the learning review?

- Suited to events in complex sociotechnical systems
- Addresses the biases of traditional methods
- Shifts from **blame** to **understanding**
- Reduces compounded harm
- Values the work and insights of health care workers
- Incorporates human factors, systems safety and resilient health care



# The illusion of learning



- Our understanding after an event is coloured by both hindsight and outcome bias
- We have the illusion that we understand the situation and would not make those same choices

Fischhoff, B. (1975). Hindsight is not equal to foresight: The effect of outcome knowledge on judgment under uncertainty. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, 1(3), 288-299. doi:10.1037/0096-1523.1.3.288



# The learning review



Collecting  
information

Building the  
story

Sense-making

Creating learning and  
improvement actions

Reporting





# Putting it all together: moving from compliance to learning

- Understanding the experiences of harm
- Understanding what is needed to restore relationships
- Learning about what these events tell us about our systems
- Using this learning to understand where best to intervene in the system



# Built on Modern Safety Science



Healthcare is a  
complex adaptive  
system




Risks are emergent  
and dynamic



Safety is created by the  
ability to navigate risk







“Underneath every simple, obvious story about ‘human error,’ there is a deeper, more complex story about the organization.”

S.W.A. Dekker, *The field guide to human error*





Any questions?