

# The Joint Commission's 4 Es of a Reporting Culture For Sentinel Event Management

The Joint Commission created “The 4 Es of a Reporting Culture” to help healthcare organizations prioritize the safety and well-being of patients during unanticipated events.



## Establish Trust

Trust is a key element in any safety culture and its development is contingent on the leadership's commitment to safety.

## Encourage Reporting

Organizations need to make reporting accessible to all staff and provide feedback to confirm that action is being taken when reports are made.



## Eliminate Fear of Punishment

It must be evident that there will be no retaliation for employees who report safety concerns and that everyone within an organization will be held to the same standard.

## Examine Errors

Use compiled data to identify the highest risk situations for your organization and act. Data can help to reinforce positive elements and strengthen weaknesses within a reporting culture.



Visit [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org)  
for more on sentinel events and reporting culture.