

Facing our mistakes.

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Hilfiker D. Facing our mistakes. N Engl J Med. 1984;310(2):118-22.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/facing-our-mistakes>

In this piece, Dr. Hilfiker shares his personal experience with medical error. He describes the emotional toll of these mistakes and the difficulty processing them given the lack of “permission” to discuss these events openly with either patients or colleagues. He concludes that the medical community needs to give itself permission to recognize errors and to find healthy ways to deal with these events.