

Disclosure of medical error to parents and paediatric patients: assessment of parents' attitudes and influencing factors.

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Several studies have shown that patients clearly prefer [full disclosure](#) of medical errors and [near misses](#). Despite this preference, physicians continue to "[choose their words carefully](#)" when discussing errors, and often fail to explicitly acknowledge errors or offer an [apology](#). This survey of parents of children seen in inpatient and ambulatory settings confirmed [prior studies](#) in finding that parents desire full disclosure of errors and near misses affecting their children, and most parents also wanted their children informed. Interestingly, parents born in Asia had a lower threshold for disclosing errors to their children, implying that cultural factors may influence views on error disclosure. An AHRQ WebM&M [commentary](#) discusses an error that was disclosed to a parent and the consequences that followed.