

3. Let's look for an American solution. **Why is it so safe to fly in the US?**

Because safety in airline transportation depends on a "black box" and an "FAA." There is no "single payor" system, nor any "free market" competitive forces to assure passengers' safety.

The risk of an accident is the same whether you fly a low-cost carrier such as Southwest Airlines or a higher cost carrier such as American Airlines.

In the healthcare industry we have **no black box** (i.e. peer review) and **no FAA**.

Similarly to the FAA and FDA, which are not exclusively funded by the government, I believe that such a "black box" (see Appendix #8) could be funded jointly by multiple interested parties who would benefit from the black box:

1. professional liability insurance companies
2. medical insurance companies
3. Medicare
4. HMOs
5. all hospitals
6. all healthcare providers: physicians, pharmacists, nurses, ...
7. healthcare device manufacturers
8. charitable foundations such as Steve Case's Revolution Health Group

All hospitals and healthcare providers need to participate in order to get a license.

I believe that Alliance for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) could be the nucleus for an FAA equivalent in the healthcare industry and NASA's Aviation Safety Reporting System could provide a model for a patient safety reporting system, where anonymous information could be reviewed regarding errors and complications in the health care industry.

As we all know, "When there is no cat, the mice dance."

In other words, **we need cats, so that the mice won't dance anymore.**