

# The Hidden Epidemic: Medical Errors Now America's #3 Killer

Opinion - by Bill Smith, January 2025 © all rights reserved.

## Beyond Statistics: America's Deadliest Healthcare Secre

Medical errors are now the 3rd leading cause of death in America - claiming more lives than accidents, strokes, and respiratory disease combined. Only heart disease and cancer kill more Americans.

### The numbers are staggering:

- 250,000-400,000 preventable deaths yearly
- Equal to two 747s crashing DAILY
- More deaths than diabetes, Alzheimer's, & stroke combined
- Even more frightening is right behind heart disease and cancer.

### Why is this happening?:

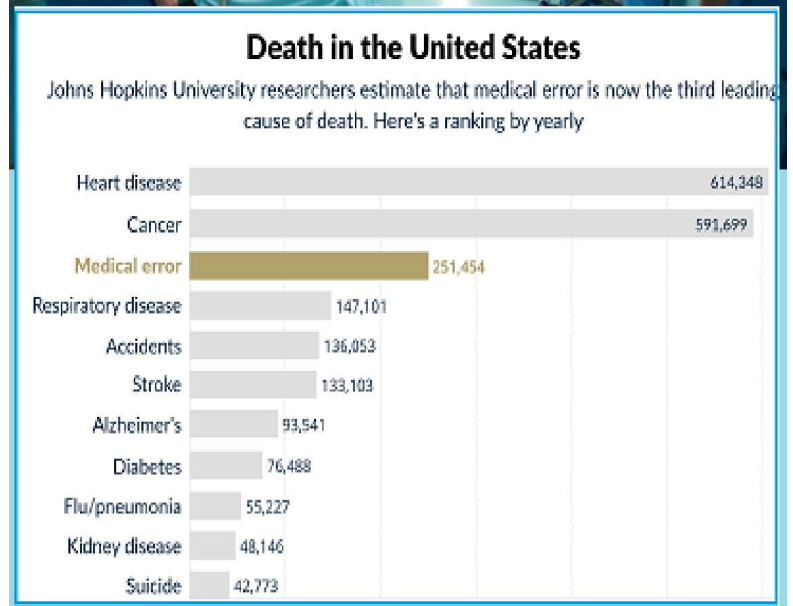
- 12-hour shifts causing to fatal errors
- Systemic staff burnout
- Profit prioritized over safety
- Zero accountability
- Hidden from public view

While the FDA scrutinizes food dyes and additives, hospital errors go largely unreported. The same government that recalls tainted peanut butter allows hundreds of thousands to die from preventable medical errors. No recalls.

No headlines. No action.



- 25-30% decline in cognitive function by hour 8
- 12 Hour Shifts, there are 6% more hospital deaths after the 8th hour on hospital shifts.



## My Personal Story

My son Zander became one of these statistics. His story isn't unique - it's happening in hospitals across America, every single day. The impact of fatigue extends beyond individual performance. As someone who has spent countless hours observing hospital operations, I've witnessed how exhaustion affects critical thinking, reaction time, and attention to detail. The Journal of Patient Safety reports that these cognitive declines lead to preventable errors claiming between 210,000 and 440,000 lives annually.

Consider [Zander Smith](#), my son, whose short life ended tragically at age 20. This vibrant young man had successfully endured 14

successful surgeries over his life, only to fall victim to preventable errors during routine spine surgery. He fought for 3 years before losing his battle last Christmas.

We're not talking about "bad doctors." We're talking about systemic failures that need systemic solutions. Lives depend on it.

#### **We Have Solution Ready Now:**

- Implement, more normal work shifts, [Articles](#), ([Zander's Law](#), informed Consent)

#### **Other "Ready Now" Solutions:**

- Mandatory error reporting
- Independent oversight
- Better staffing ratios
- Modern Technology Adoption

#### **Healthcare Reform, New Yorkers Now Asking for Everyone's Help:**

The Grieving Families Act could start real change. But we need voices - powerful voices - to amplify this message and demand reform.

The Grieving Families Act could start real change. But @GovKathyHochul has vetoed it THREE times, choosing insurance profits over New Yorkers' lives.. [Read the full story..](#)

Read [Zander's full story](#) and join our fight. Together, we can stop this silent epidemic.

Take Action Now: Sign f [click Please keep me up to date on this important issue.](#) to stay informed New York residents: [click to let Governor Hochul know](#)

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