

# From Failure to Success

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**DON'T BE  
AFRAID TO FAIL.**

**YOU'RE  
ALREADY  
SUPER GOOD  
AT IT.**

**sheebox**  
**REJECTED**

# Moving a manuscript or grant forward after a crushing critique

Read once

- – if crushing - Step back - read another day

-if any positive, read again, focus on the importance of the work-  
the “so what” of the scholarship

next day – read critique again and list points of contention and  
points for revision

Talk to mentor and coauthors

Start revising

# More strategies - Moving toward Success

## Manuscripts

- May need to complete additional analysis or different analysis – right statistical support?
- Is it the right journal or publisher? Match with purpose and readership?

## Grants

- Mix it up a bit – may need another person on the team?
- Is it the right funding agency?
- Set up meeting with the team – go through trouble points

# As a mentor



- Share examples of own experiences of being successful after a similar review and those that were worse!
- Encourage mentee to consider the advice.
- Mix up the science – drop something
- Strengthen preliminary data – feasibility and trend
- Talk to the program officer of the funding agency – they are usually expecting your call!
- Can provide great perspective on significance of the topic, relevance to strategic priorities & ideas about revisions
- Disengage from this focus for awhile
- Two primary foci

Take an honest look in the mirror



# Refocus

- 15 priorities is the same as having none at all
  - Kaplan, R. *Harvard Business Review*, 2007
- Keep moving forward!