

Reference: *Nature Chemistry* **2019**, *11*, 286–294

Nature Chemistry's 10th anniversary falls close in time to the 10th anniversary of Sheri Sangji's tragic death resulting from an avoidable laboratory accident at the University of California, Los Angeles. Although there is understandable excitement about future developments in reaction-monitoring technologies, cheminformatics, and programmable late-stage methylation chemistries, none of these investigations matter if they cannot be accomplished safely. None of them matter if we go to work and never come home. Therefore, the question that should most deeply challenge us is this: How can we better understand and eliminate our failings in laboratory safety?

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