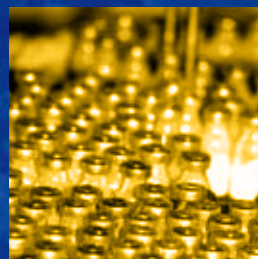


WORLD ALLIANCE FOR PATIENT SAFETY

Forward Programme

2008-2009

First Edition



World Health
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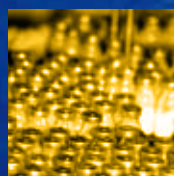
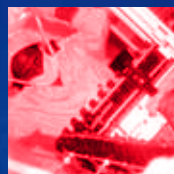
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World Alliance for Patient Safety

FORWARD PROGRAMME 2008-2009

First Edition

This draft is intended for discussion at the Expert Advisory Group Meeting, 25 June 2008



About the World Alliance for Patient Safety

In May 2002, the Fifty-fifth World Health Assembly adopted WHA Resolution 55.18, which urged Member States to pay the closest possible attention to the problem of patient safety and to establish and strengthen science-based systems necessary for improving patient safety and the quality of health care.

Following this, in May 2004, the Fifty-seventh World Health Assembly supported the creation of an international alliance to facilitate the development of patient safety policy and practice in all Member States, to act as a major force for improvement internationally.

The Patient Safety Programme within the Information, Evidence and Research Cluster incorporates the World Alliance for Patient Safety, which addresses patient safety in health care as an issue of global importance. It promotes the development of evidence-based norms for the delivery of safer patient care, global classifications for medical errors and it supports knowledge sharing in patient safety between Member States. The Alliance advocates for a better understanding of the reasons for unsafe care and identifies the most effective preventive measures and means of evaluating them. It works with leading international experts, organizations, patient NGOs and many others, to draw international attention to the issue of patient safety.

The Alliance, bi-annually, publishes its Forward Programme setting out its two-year work programme, as well as a Progress Report detailing actions taken to deliver its major priorities. The first edition of the 2008-2009 Forward Programme is intended to be a discussion document to allow the Alliance Secretariat, its expert leaders and a multitude of external stakeholders to debate the priorities that should be addressed in the next two years.



Dr Margaret Chan,
Director-General,
World Health
Organization

«WHO Member States have recognized that patient safety is important. WHO's World Alliance for Patient Safety work is supported by a growing number of partnerships with safety agencies, technical experts, patient groups and many other stakeholders from around the world who are helping to drive the patient safety agenda forward.

Significant progress has already been achieved as witnessed by the eighty seven countries that have pledged to address health care-associated infection, a serious patient safety challenge. It is simple actions, such as hand hygiene, that can help reduce this patient safety problem. To date, 20 countries have developed or enhanced national campaigns on hand hygiene based on WHO's guidelines and multimodal strategy. In most cases the campaigns have been initiated or influenced by the ministerial pledges to address this challenge.

In addition, the Alliance is mobilizing those on the front lines of health care systems and hundreds of professional societies of surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses from around the world are endorsing the concepts of the *WHO Surgical Safety Checklist*; hundreds of researchers from more than forty countries are involved with patient safety research, thus using the persuasive power of evidence to catalyze commitment to safer care; and hundreds of patient leaders are contributing to safer health care by playing a central role as partners in these Alliance initiatives. These examples should inspire all to ensure that safe care is the standard everywhere.»

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