



World  
Patient Safety  
Day 17 September 2019



# Speak up for patient safety!

No one should be harmed in health care



 World Health Organization

 World Patient Safety Day 17 September 2019

**No one should be harmed in health care...**



**And yet..**

**And yet globally, at least 5 patients die a minute because of  
unsafe health care  
most of these deaths are avoidable**

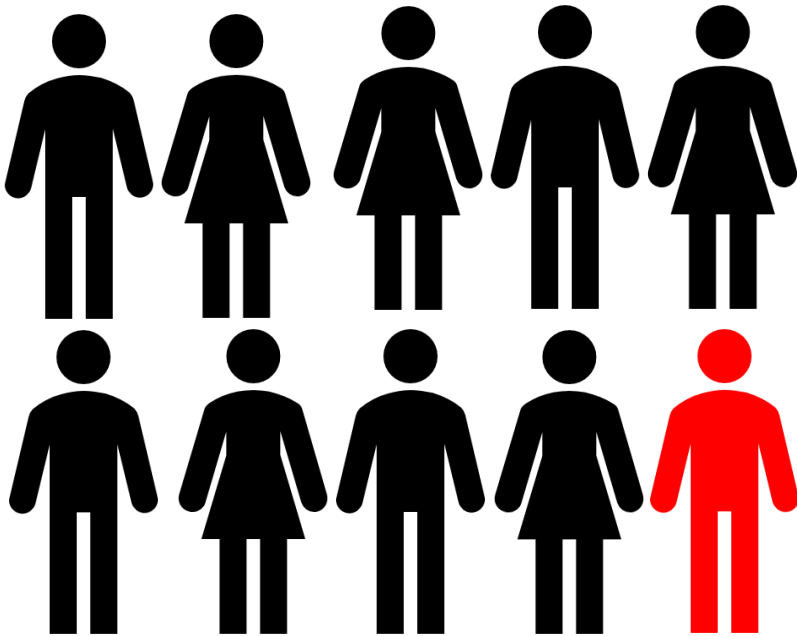


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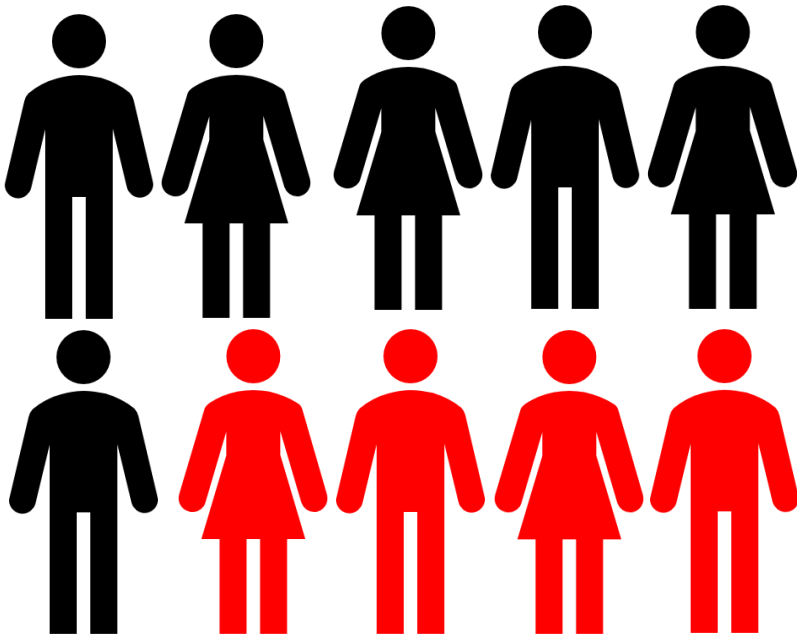


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**Adverse events due to unsafe care are likely to be one of the top 10 leading causes of death and disability worldwide**



One in every 10  
patients is harmed while  
receiving hospital care in  
HICs



4 out of 10 patients are  
harmed in primary and  
ambulatory care settings



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**Medication errors are a leading cause of injury and avoidable harm**

Source: [https://www.who.int/features/factfiles/patient\\_safety/en/](https://www.who.int/features/factfiles/patient_safety/en/)



Unsafe surgical care causes complications in up to 25% of patients

Almost 7 million surgical patients annually suffer significant complications

# Why does patient harm occur?



look alike sound alike medication names

fatigue

**inadequate systems**

poor reporting systems

unsafe practices poor communication

**wrong patient**

lack of training and experience of medical staff

**wrong route**

**wrong diagnosis**

provision of healthcare is error-prone

lack of teamwork



## Invest in patient safety

The cost to patients, healthcare systems, and societies is considerable

15% of total hospital activity and expenditure in OECD countries is direct result of adverse events



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WPSD 2019 slogan: **Speak up for patient safety!**

# How can you enhance patient safety

If you are a...



## Patient or Caregiver

Be involved, ask questions, provide accurate health history



## Health Worker or Health Leader

Engage patients, ensure continuous professional development, create openness and transparency in practice, be blame-free



## Public Health Advocate or Patient Organization

Promote patients' voices in their own safe care, advocate for required safety



## Policy Maker

Invest in patient safety for financial savings and saving lives, make patient safety a priority



## Professional Association, International Organization, or Foundation

Promote patient safety for UHC, provide learning and development opportunities



## Research Student, Academic, or Professional Institution

Generate evidence to improve patient safety, incorporate patient safety into curricula



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