Towards eliminating avoidable harm in maternal and newborn care

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Why safety is so important in maternal and newborn care

810 women and 6700 newborn die, and 5400 stillbirths every day

Significant harm is concentrated around 48 hours of childbirth

Safety incidents leads to mistrust and diminished health seeking behavior

Most of the harm to women and newborns is preventable
Patient safety incident

Does not reach the patient
- Near miss

Reaches the patient
- Harmful incident
- No harm incident
  - Adverse event (Preventable)
  - Adverse reaction (Non-preventable)
Sources of harm during childbirth

- Medication errors
- Diagnostic errors
- Unnecessary and harmful practices
- Transfusion errors
- Health care associated infections
- Admin errors
WHO efforts to advance patient safety agenda
WHO Patient Safety Flagship: A Decade of Patient Safety 2021-2030

Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-2030

World Patient Safety Day 17 September 2021

Global Patient Safety Collaborative

Patient safety guidelines & tools
2019: 72nd World Health Assembly (WHA) adopted Resolution WHA 72.6
2021: 74th WHA adopted Decision WHA74.13
**Vision**
A world in which no one is harmed in healthcare and every patient receives safe and respectful care, every time, everywhere.

**Mission**
Drive forward policies, strategies and actions, based on science, patient experience, system design and partnerships, to eliminate all sources of avoidable risk and harm to patients and health workers.

**Goal**
Achieve the maximum possible reduction in avoidable harm due to unsafe healthcare globally.

**Policies and action**
- High-reliability systems
- Patient and family engagement
- Information, research and risk management
- Safety of clinical processes
- Health worker education, skills and safety

**Evidence into improvement**
- Synergy, partnership and solidarity
- Data to generate learning
- Safety culture
- Results through collaboration
Seven Strategic Objectives

SO1
Policies to eliminate avoidable harm in health care

SO2
High-reliability systems

SO3
Safety of clinical processes

SO4
Patient and family engagement

SO5
Health worker education, skills and safety

SO6
Information, research and risk management

SO7
Synergy, partnership and solidarity
World Patient Safety Day 2021
Safe maternal and newborn care
World Patient Safety Day

Goals 2021–2022

Safe maternal and newborn care
World Patient Safety Day

Goals

• An annual call for improvement around the theme of World Patient Safety Day
• Linked with high priority, or high impact interventions
• Recommendations extracted from existing WHO Guidance
• Targeted towards health care facilities and providers
• Accompanied with process and outcome measures
• Promotes health care facilities to sign-up for goals and share their stories
WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY GOALS 2021–2022

Safe maternal and newborn care

Goal 1
Reduce practices that are unnecessary and harmful to women and newborns during childbirth

Goal 2
Strengthen capacity and support of health workers for safe maternal and newborn care

Goal 3
Promote respectful care for safe childbirth

Goal 4
Improve safe use of medication and blood transfusion during childbirth

Goal 5
Report and analyze safety incidents in childbirth
Thank you