Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021–2030

An Overview

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72ⁿᵈ World Health Assembly (WHA)

May 2019

Watershed moment for patient safety!

➢ Adopted WHA resolution on **Global action on patient safety** (WHA72.6)

➢ Recognized **Patient Safety as a global health priority**

➢ Established an annual **World Patient Safety Day** on 17 September

➢ Invited international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to **collaborate** with Member States in promoting and supporting patient safety initiatives

➢ Requested DG to **emphasize patient safety as a key strategic priority in WHO's work across the universal health coverage agenda**

The Mandate   **WHA 72.6: Global Action on Patient Safety**

"To formulate a global patient safety action plan in consultation with Member States and all relevant stakeholders, including in the private sector, for submission to the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly in 2021through the 148th session of the Executive Board"
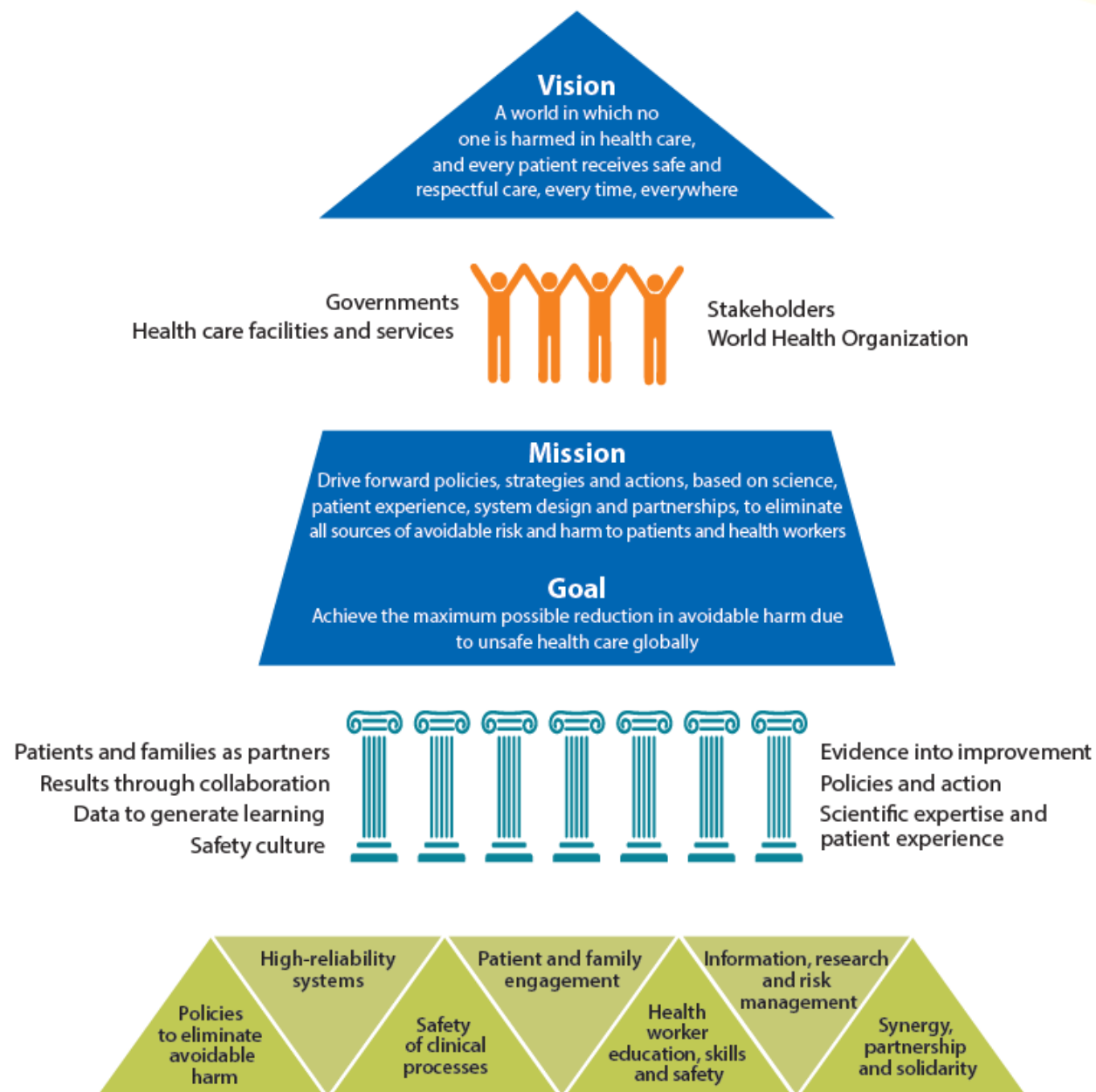
Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-2030

DRAFT GLOBAL PATIENT SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2021–2030
Towards eliminating avoidable harm in health care

- ➤ January 2021: submitted to the 74th World Health Assembly in 2021 through the 148th session of the Executive Board
- ➤ May 2021: approved by the 74th WHA decision
- ➤ August 2021: formally launched

Purpose of the global action plan

- Provide strategic direction for all stakeholders through policy actions

- Provide a framework to develop and prioritize patient safety initiatives and interventions

- Align existing strategic instruments for promoting patient safety in all clinical and health-related programmes

- Provide implementation guidance for mandate provided by WHA72.6: resolution 'Global action on patient safety'

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

Framework for Action – The 7x5 Matrix

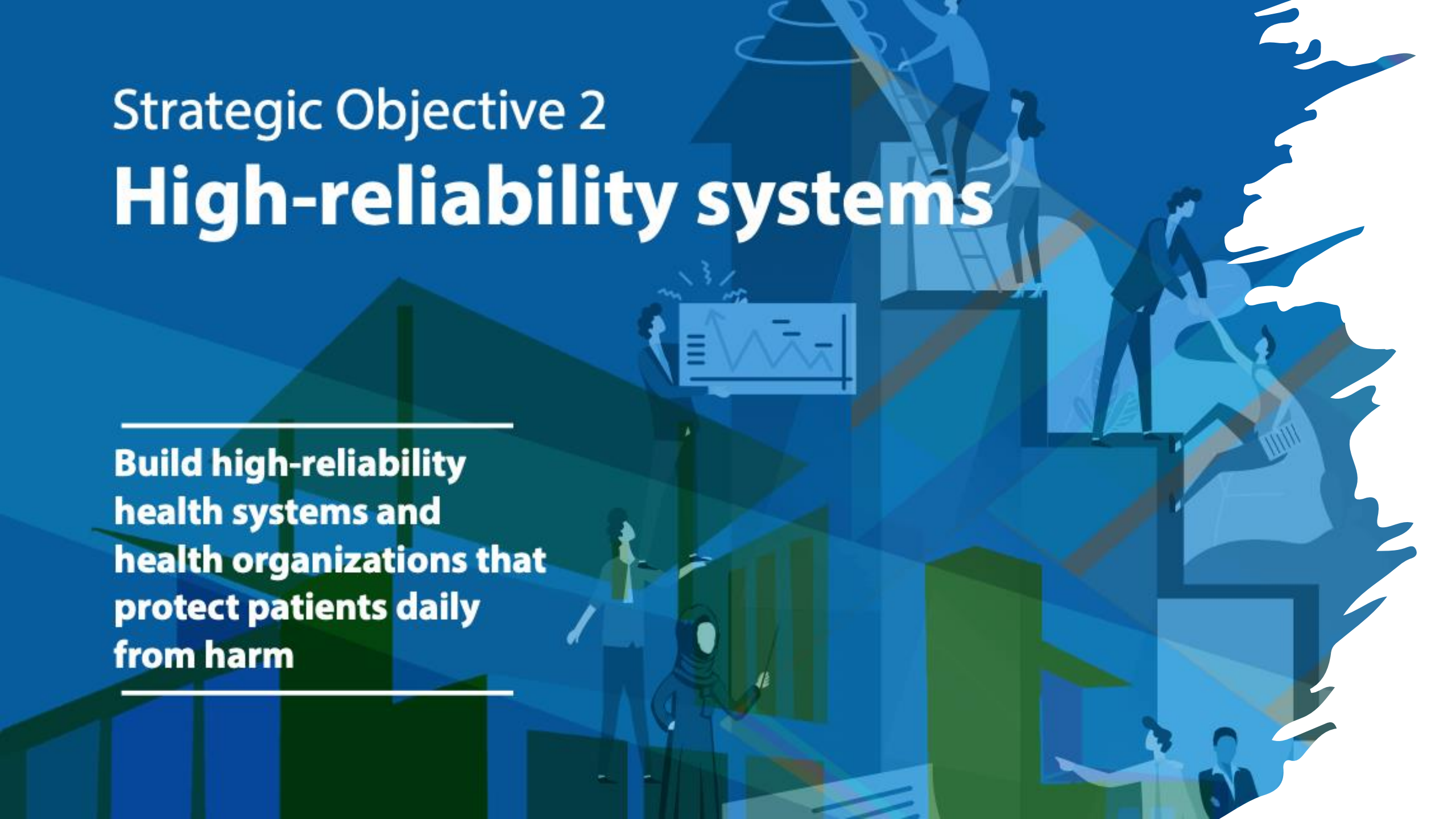|					
1 Policies to eliminate avoidable harm in health care	**1.1** Patient safety policy, strategy and implementation framework	**1.2** Resource mobilization and allocation	**1.3** Protective legislative measures	**1.4** Safety standards, regulation and accreditation	**1.5** World Patient Safety Day and Global Patient Safety Challenges
2 High-reliability systems	**2.1** Transparency, openness and No blame culture	**2.2** Good governance for the health care system	**2.3** Leadership capacity for clinical and managerial functions	**2.4** Human factors/ ergonomics for health systems resilience	**2.5** Patient safety in emergencies and settings of extreme adversity
3 Safety of clinical processes	**3.1** Safety of risk-prone clinical procedures	**3.2** Global Patient Safety Challenge: *Medication Without Harm*	**3.3** Infection prevention and control & antimicrobial resistance	**3.4** Safety of medical devices, medicines, blood and vaccines	**3.5** Patient safety in primary care and transitions of care
4 Patient and family engagement	**4.1** Co-development of policies and programmes with patients	**4.2** Learning from patient experience for safety improvement	**4.3** Patient advocates and patient safety champions	**4.4** Patient safety incident disclosure to victims	**4.5** Information and education to patients and families
5 Health worker education, skills and safety	**5.1** Patient safety in professional education and training	**5.2** Centres of excellence for patient safety education and training	**5.3** Patient safety competencies as regulatory requirements	**5.4** Linking patient safety with appraisal system of health workers	**5.5** Safe working environment for health workers
6 Information, research and risk management	**6.1** Patient safety incident reporting and learning systems	**6.2** Patient safety information systems	**6.3** Patient safety surveillance systems	**6.4** Patient safety research programmes	**6.5** Digital technology for patient safety
7 Synergy, partnership and solidarity	**7.1** Stakeholders engagement	**7.2** Common understanding and shared commitment	**7.3** Patient safety networks and collaboration	**7.4** Cross geographical and multisectoral initiatives for patient safety	**7.5** Alignment with technical programmes and initiatives

Strategic Objective 1

Policies to eliminate avoidable harm in health care

Make zero avoidable harm to patients a state of mind and a rule of engagement in the planning and delivery of health care everywhere

Strategic Objective 2

High-reliability systems

Build high-reliability
health systems and
health organizations that
protect patients daily
from harm

Strategic Objective 3
Safety of clinical processes

Assure the safety of every clinical process

Strategy 3.1:

Safety of risk-prone clinical procedures

Strategy 3.2:

Global Patient Safety Challenge: *Medication Without Harm*

Strategy 3.3:

Infection prevention and control & antimicrobial resistance

Strategy 3.4:

Safety of medical devices, medicines, blood and vaccines

Strategy 3.5:

Patient safety in primary care and transitions of care

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Strategic Objective 4
Patient and family engagement

Engage and empower patients and families to help and support the journey to safer health care

Strategy 4.1:

Co-development of policies and programmes with patients

Strategy 4.2:

Learning form patient experience for safety improvement

Strategy 4.3:

Patient advocates and patient safety champions

Strategy 4.4:

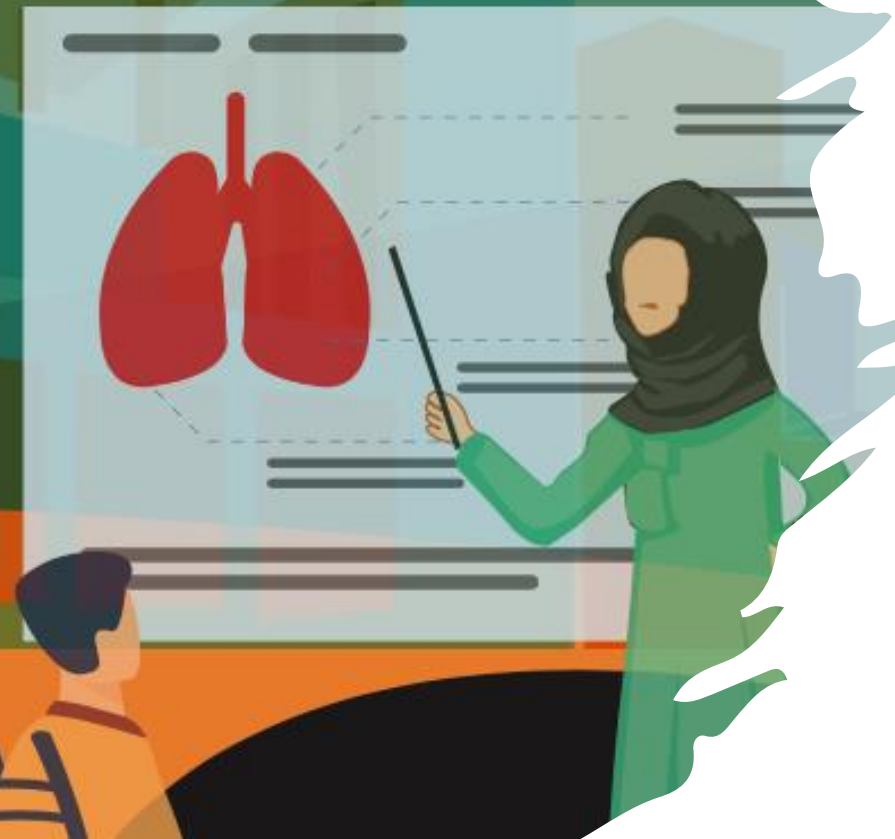Patient safety incident disclosure to victims

Strategy 4.5:

Information and education for patient and families

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Strategic Objective 5

Health worker education, skills and safety

Inspire, educate, skill and protect health workers to contribute to the design and delivery of safe care systems

Strategic Objective 6

Information, research and risk management

Ensure a constant flow of information and knowledge to drive the mitigation of risk, a reduction in levels of avoidable harm, and improvements in the safety of care

Strategy 6.1:
Patient safety incident reporting and learning systems

Strategy 6.2:
Patient safety information systems

Strategy 6.3:
Patient safety surveillance systems

Strategy 6.4:
Patient safety research programmes

Strategy 6.5:
Digital technology for patient safety

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Strategic Objective 7

Synergy, partnership and solidarity

Develop and sustain multisectoral and multinational synergy, partnership and solidarity to improve patient safety and quality of care

Strategy 7.1:
Stakeholder engagement

Strategy 7.2:
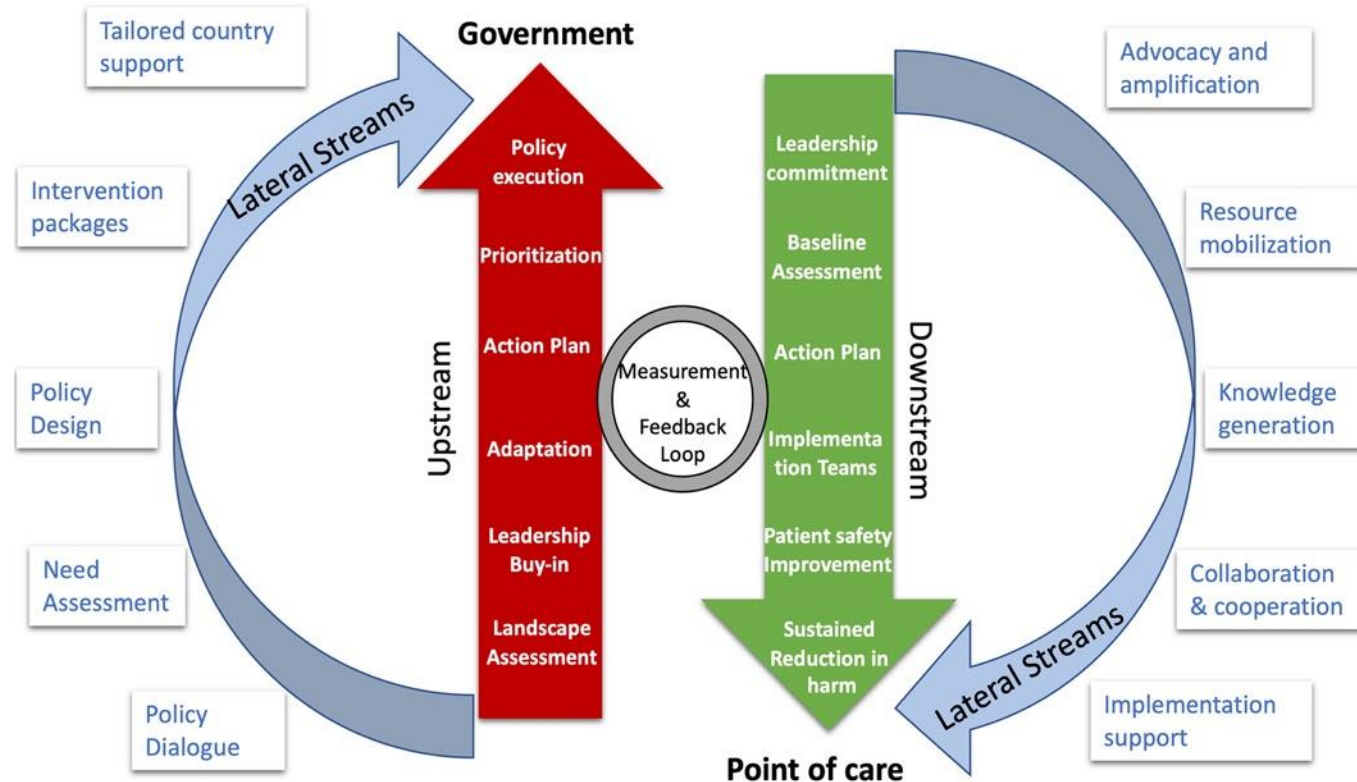Common understanding and shared commitment

Strategy 7.3:
Patient safety networks and collaboration

Strategy 7.4:
Cross geographic and multisectoral initiatives for patient safety

Strategy 7.5:
Alignment with technical programmes and initiatives

https://ezcollab.who.int/gpsn

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Policy options for implementation

The Patient Safety Implementation Ecosystem

Milestones

1. Landscape assessment of safety risks and barriers to improvement

2. Commitment from political and organizational leadership

3. Sustainable mechanism for implementation

4. National context and priorities

5. Model of change

Core Indicators

1 Number of countries that have developed a national action plan (or equivalent) for implementing patient safety policy and strategies

2 Number of countries that have implemented a system for reporting of never events (or sentinel events)

3 Significant reduction in health care-associated infections (measured by % of countries achieving their national targets)

3 Significant reduction in medication-related harm (adverse drug events) (measured by % of countries achieving their national targets)

4 Number of countries that have a patient representative on the governing board (or an equivalent mechanism) in 60% or more hospitals

5 Number of countries that have incorporated a patient safety curriculum in education programmes or courses for health care professionals

5 Number of countries that have signed up for implementation of the WHO Health Worker Safety Charter1

6 Number of countries that have 60% or more health care facilities participating in a patient safety incident reporting and learning system

6 Number of countries that publish an annual report on patient safety

7 Number of countries that have established a national patient safety network

Core indicators and global targets

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

Indicator
Number of countries that have developed a national action plan (or equivalent) for implementing patient safety policy and strategies

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have developed a national patient safety action plan or equivalent

2021	Establish a baseline
2023	30% of countries
2025	50% of countries
2027	80% of countries
2030	90% of countries

Source of data
Member State survey by WHO

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

Indicator
Number of countries that have implemented a system for reporting of never events (or sentinel events)

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have implemented a system for reporting of never events (or sentinel events)

2021	Establish a baseline
2023	30% of countries
2025	50% of countries
2027	80% of countries
2030	90% of countries

Source of data
Member State survey by WHO or partner institution

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Indicator
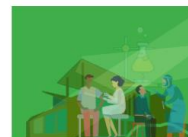Significant reduction in health care-associated infections

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have achieved their national targets on reducing the health care-associated infection rate

2022	Establish a baseline and national targets
2023	20% of countries
2025	40% of countries
2027	60% of countries
2030	80% of countries

Source of data
National health or patient safety information

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Indicator
Significant reduction in medication-related harm (adverse drug events)

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have achieved their national targets on reducing medication-related harm

2022	Establish a baseline and national targets
2023	20% of countries
2025	50% of countries
2027	70% of countries
2030	80% of countries

Source of data
National health or patient safety information system

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

Indicator
Number of countries that have a patient representative on the governing board (or an equivalent mechanism) in 60% or more hospitals

Global targets
Percentage of countries with more than 60% of hospitals having a patient representative on the governing board (or an equivalent mechanism)

2022	Baseline established
2023	20% of countries
2025	30% of countries
2027	50% of countries
2030	70% of countries

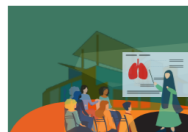**Source of data**
Survey by partner patient organization designated by WHO

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5

Indicator
Number of countries that have incorporated a patient safety curriculum in education programmes or courses for health care professionals

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have incorporated a patient safety curriculum in education programmes or courses for health care professionals

2021	Baseline established
2023	30% of countries
2025	50% of countries
2027	70% of countries
2030	80% of countries

Source of data
Member State survey by WHO or partner institution

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5

Indicator
Number of countries that have signed up for implementation of the WHO Health Worker Safety Charter[1]

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have signed up for implementation of the WHO Health Worker Safety Charter

2021	Baseline established
2023	30% of countries
2025	50% of countries
2027	80% of countries
2030	90% of countries

Source of data
Member State survey by WHO or partner institution

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6

Indicator
Number of countries that have 60% or more health care facilities participating in a patient safety incident reporting and learning system

Global targets
Percentage of countries with 60% or more health care facilities participating in a patient safety incident reporting and learning system

2022	Baseline established
2023	20% of countries
2025	40% of countries
2027	60% of countries
2030	80% of countries

Source of data
Survey by WHO or partner institution
Reports from national patient safety incident reporting and learning system

Indicator
Number of countries that publish an annual report on patient safety

Global targets
Percentage of countries that publish an annual report on patient safety

2021	Baseline established
2023	20% of countries
2025	40% of countries
2027	60% of countries
2030	70% of countries

Source of data
Member State survey by WHO

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 7

Indicator
Number of countries that have established a national patient safety network

Global targets
Percentage of countries that have established a national patient safety network

2021	Baseline established
2023	30% of countries
2025	50% of countries
2027	60% of countries
2030	80% of countries

Source of data
Member State survey by WHO or partner institution

Thank you