FAQ

WHO

Joe Kiani, Founder & Outgoing Chairman, Patient Safety Movement Foundation
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WHAT

Founded in 2012, the Patient Safety Movement Foundation (PSMF) is a global commitment-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to eliminating preventable patient deaths in hospitals by 2030. The Foundation convenes the annual World Patient Safety, Science & Technology Summit. The Summit brings together the world’s leading clinicians, hospital CEOs, patient advocates and government leaders to identify main challenges and provide tested solutions called Actionable Patient Safety Solutions (APSS). Attendees are asked to "Don’t just hope for ZERO, plan for ZERO" by making formal commitments to advance patient safety and report on progress annually.

WHY

It is estimated that 200,000 – 400,000 preventable patient deaths occur each year in U.S. hospitals – making it the third leading cause of death.1 And it is now estimated that medical errors are the 14th leading cause of death worldwide, killing more people than HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria, combined.

The World Health Organization reports that European data consistently shows that medical errors and adverse events occur in 8% to 12% of hospitalizations. For example, the United Kingdom Department of Health, estimated about 850,000 adverse events occur a year (10% of hospital admissions). Spain, France and Denmark have published incidence studies with similar results.2

The Patient Safety Movement Foundation has made a public commitment to eliminate preventable patient deaths in hospitals by the year 2030.

HOW

• Identify and share the latest advancements addressing the biggest patient safety challenges facing hospitals today.
• Develop evidence-based Actionable Patient Safety Solutions (APSS) in order to address patient safety challenges and give hospitals around the world access – at no cost.
• Ask hospitals to make a commitment to implement APSS or processes known to reduce preventable harm and death in their hospitals.
• Encourage healthcare technology companies to sign the Open Data Pledge, to share data in the name of patient safety.
• Creating partnerships with global organizations who are also working to improve patient safety.

RESULTS

What results have committed hospitals shared with the PSMF?

• 4,793 hospitals across 48 countries have made public commitments to eliminate preventable patient deaths. These hospitals have reported over 93,276 lives have been saved by implementing processes to improve safety.

As a result of their commitment to eliminate preventable patient deaths and/or implementing Actionable Patient Safety Solutions, many hospitals have achieved incredible results including:

• California-based Sutter Health fought Non-ventilator Pneumonia (NV-HAP) by improving oral care. In 2018, the Sutter Health system renewed its commitment to track and reduce NV-HAP through the PSMF and pledged to include all of Sutter’s 21 hospitals. They’ve reported 164 avoided cases of NV-HAP, 31 lives saved, and $5.9 million saved. Their solution has now been released as, APSS #2G.
• In 2016, Inova Fairfax Medical Center committed to reduce Central Line-associated Blood Stream Infections (CLABSI) and recorded almost 80 such infections that year. In 2018 this number dropped to 30 and in 2019 they recorded fewer than 20 CLABSI cases.
FAQ

Other global highlights include:

- Changhua Christian Hospital in Taichung, Taiwan became a 5-Star Hospital, the first in Asia, making commitments giving them a 5-Star Status. Commitments highlights include: reducing hand-off communications, improving nasogastric tube (NGT) placement and verification and reducing unplanned extubations.

- The National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) was the first international medical school to commit to implementing APSS #17 around patient safety curriculum for their 1,500+ medical students. The school recently revamped its post-graduate training center, expanding the number of procedures it supports and increasing the number of simulations.

- In Germany, the World Patient Blood Management Network, has completed clinical trials for their innovative patient blood management (PBM) program. The PBM intravenously treats anemia, increases blood conserving measures and creates guidelines for blood transfusions. A recent study of the PBM across four Australian hospitals involving internal medicine and surgery of over 600,000 patients was proven to reduce transfused patients (41%), preoperative anemia (33%), length of hospital stay (15%), infections (21%), mortality (28%), and reduce costs by 41%.

- In Dubai, the first patient safety movement of its kind in the Middle East convened. The movement, which is being spearheaded by the Dubai Healthcare City Authority (DHCA) is focused on improving the coordination of care for patients and positively impact their quality of life and those and their loved ones.

View all 18 APSS Challenges and 39 Solutions: patientsafetymovement.org/apss

What healthcare technology companies have signed the Open Data Pledge?

To date, 92 medical technology companies have made a public “Open Data Pledge” to share data their products are purchased for, with no interference or charge. The Open Data Pledge is designed to foster a marketplace of data analytics to encourage entrepreneurs to develop novel uses of health data that will improve patient safety and reduce preventable deaths. Companies like Baxter, Cerner, Edwards Lifesciences, GE Healthcare, Masimo, Medtronic, Philips, and even Oracle and IBM Watson have joined.

To view a full list, visit the Partners section of our website.

Does the Foundation work with patients and their families?

The Foundation strongly believes in story telling as a way for families and friends to turn their tragedies into positive action. View a complete list of our patient stories here.

New stories include:

- Pat Denton, age 73 - Died due to a lack of continuity of care complicated by the lack of record keeping in the electronic health record (EHR)

- Shalynne McKinney, age 22 - Died due to a blood clot. She was Shalynne accidentally said she didn’t have insurance to cover her ER visit. The hospital denied her treatment and sent her home without treatment.

- Parker Stewart, age 21 - Died of opioid-induced respiratory depression at home following a routine tonsillectomy. Parker’s doctors did not send him home with a way to monitor his oxygen level and therefor his deterioration was not noticed and he was found “dead in bed” by his wife.

- Joshua Titcombe, 5 days old - Died due Sepsis. The midwives caring for Joshua did not notice that he was Septic. After his death the family inquired and years later found that the midwives falsified Joshua’s medical records and instead of being open and honest and learning from his death, worked in fear and tried to cover up their mistakes.
Partners:

What types of organizations Partner with the PSMF?

To date, 94 global Partners have signed customized Commitment to Action Letters sharing how their organization spreads the mission of ZERO through their members and network. These organizations often have missions closely aligned with the PSMF and they bridge all stakeholder groups including: professional societies, associations, advocacy groups, insurance companies, non-profits and companies.

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