Patient Safety

Patient safety has moved from being a relatively unrecognised concept in the early 1990s to a priority for many health care systems around the world in the 21st century.

Sir Liam Donaldson, Chairman of the National Patient Safety Agency (UK) and WHO Envoy for Patient Safety, describes the challenges over the past decade of convincing governments and clinical leaders to improve the safety of health care and increase awareness and commitment to this important subject in an international context. Dr Edward Kelley provides the WHO perspective on patient safety as a global public health issue and the challenges facing WHO’s Patient Safety Programme looking forward.

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