



**World Health  
Organization**

**Patient Safety**

A World Alliance for Safer Health Care

## **African Partnerships for Patient Safety (APPS) Working for safer health care... together**

### **Our vision:**

**One or more hospitals in each of the 46 countries of WHO's African Region, has a close and sustainable partnership with a hospital in Europe to create a network of beacon hospitals for patient safety.**

APPS is a new programme of WHO Patient Safety and forms a significant part of WHO's response to the increasing political commitment and momentum for action on patient safety across Africa. It is a two-way initiative working with hospitals in Africa and Europe. It aims to establish long-lasting partnerships centred around the improvement of patient safety in hospitals and will be in line with each country's individual health policies and priorities. All of the hospitals involved in the partnership will become beacons for improving patient safety.

### **APPS has three core objectives:**

- To build and strengthen partnerships between hospitals in Africa and Europe, focusing on patient safety
- To implement patient safety improvements in each partnership hospital
- To facilitate the spread of patient safety improvements across each country

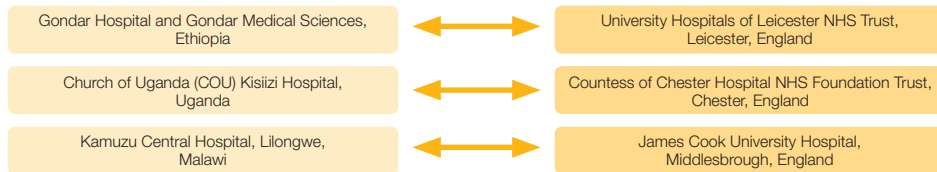
**The programme is concerned with safeguarding the health of every individual who comes into contact with the health care system, to ensure that avoidable and unnecessary harm is prevented.**

## Twelve Key Actions for Patient Safety

– identified by the WHO Regional Office for Africa and endorsed by all 46 countries of the Region:

1. Develop and implement national policies for patient safety
2. Improve knowledge and learning in patient safety
3. Raise patient safety awareness
4. Address the context in which health services and systems are developed
5. Minimize health care-associated infection
6. Protect health-care workers
7. Ensure health-care waste management
8. Ensure safe surgical care
9. Ensure appropriate use, quality and safety of medicines
10. Promote partnerships between patients, family members, health professionals and policy-makers
11. Provide adequate funding
12. Strengthen surveillance and capacity for research

### First Wave APPS Partnerships:



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**For further information**

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