Patients for Patient Safety Programme

Patients for Patient Safety is the area of work within the WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety that ensures the perspective of patients, consumers and family members around the world are ingrained within the work of the Alliance. We are working with patients and their families in partnership with health care professionals, leaders and policy makers to bring about effective and sustainable change so health care is safer for all.

We believe that patients and their lay caregivers have a unique perspective and that the safety of patients will be improved if patients are included as full partners in reform initiatives.

We see patients as the key in identifying patient safety issues, advocating for change and designing and implementing solutions. The programme aims to widen, and consolidate, the patient network around the world; advocating for safer health care and providing a source of information for health care professionals, leaders and policy makers on patient engagement for safer healthcare.

Please see our web site: http://www.who.int/patientsafety/patinets_for_patinet/en/

Patient Safety; Patient Voices – Background

The first Patients for Patient Safety Workshop of twenty one patients and patient safety advocates was held in London in November 2005; a group, whose experience established them as committed patient safety champions. Nineteen different countries were represented and the group spent an incredibly powerful few days together sharing experiences, knowledge and lessons. The foundations of a global movement, promoting active patient involvement and partnership to tackle patient safety issues around the world, were laid.

Although the group represented a diverse set of countries, regions, cultures and challenges, participants were joined by a common commitment to prevent the tragedies of unsafe health care, and the belief that patients and consumers have a very important role and voice to contribute. The group worked together, creating their values and commitment, which is embedded in the London Declaration and can be seen on the film.

There was a great opportunity to capture the experience of these Champions, their experiences, hopes and challenges in bringing about safer health care systems: ‘Patient Safety; Patient Voices’ was filmed during this event.

It is hoped this short DVD can be shared around the world with patients, family members, health professionals and policy makers. We hope that it will help raise awareness of the impact that unsafe care has on patients, demonstrate the value that patients and their families in championing for safer care and will promote the ‘Patients for Patient Safety’ vision of making a difference through partnership.

For further information please contact Rachel Heath, Patients for Patient Safety Project Manager at safety@patientsorganizations.org

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