



Patient Empowerment the Focus of Patient Safety Workshop WHO Patients for Patient Safety in Canada Workshop Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, October 16 – 19, 2006

Vancouver (October 18, 2006) The Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) and its organizing partners, the Calgary Health Region, Consumers Advancing Patient Safety and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, are pleased to be supporting a new patient-centred initiative in Canada, *Patients for Patient Safety*. This initiative is one of six action areas of the World Health Organization's (WHO) World Alliance for Patient Safety. The aim of *Patients for Patient Safety* is to develop a global network of patients and family members affected by adverse events (health care errors) to collaborate with health care organizations as patient safety champions to improve the safety of patient care.



Patient safety is a local, national and international concern. Research published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal (May 2004), reported that in the year 2000, between 9,000 and 24,000 patients in Canada died from a preventable adverse event. A similar situation has been documented in other developed countries including the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom. The Canadian organizing partners of Patients for Patient Safety and the WHO believe that the involvement of patients and families in helping to reduce adverse events is vital.



Building on a successful international workshop held in London in November 2005, and a regional workshop for the Americas in San Francisco, May 2006, the Canadian initiative brings together committed patients and family members from coast to coast to establish a Canadian network of champions, many of whom were nominated by health regions or other health care organizations who see them as partners in improving patient safety.



Canada's Patients for Patient Safety

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