

Global Patient Safety Collaborative

Briefing note

WHO and the UK Government enter into new strategic collaboration towards establishment of the Global Patient Safety Collaborative

As countries advance towards universal health coverage (UHC), they must also improve the safety of their health systems. The Global Patient Safety Collaborative (GPSC) will enable countries to collaborate at global, regional and national levels to focus on patient safety as one of the most important components of health care delivery, essential to achieving UHC and moving towards UN SDGs. The main objective of GPSC is to secure and scale up global action on patient safety as well as to work in close collaboration with selected low- and middle- income countries (LMICs) in their quest to reduce the risk of avoidable harm and improve the safety of their national health care systems. This innovative collaborative model has been developed jointly by the Patient Safety and Risk Management Unit, WHO headquarters (HQ) and the Quality, Patient Safety, and Investigations Branch, at the UK Department of Health and Social Care.

Overall work of the GPSC will be organized around three technical areas:

- **Leadership** to prioritize patient safety, promote patient safety culture and engage patients and families
- **Education and Training** to build competent, skilled and compassionate health workforce through inter-professional education and training in patient safety
- **Research** to enhance research capacities and evidence-based policy processes in patient safety.

GPSC will consist of a central, ever-evolving, knowledge resource that will be managed by WHO HQ, with input from WHO Member States (MSs), WHO Regional and Country Offices, academic and research institutions, national and international professional organizations, civil society organizations and WHO Collaborating Centres. GPSC will operate at global and regional levels on a sustainable basis, as well as directly at country level in a time-bound manner. All MSs will be eligible to access the generic support offered at global and regional levels, while direct support will be provided to a number of LMICs.

During the course of GPSC implementation, WHO HQ will closely cooperate with an academic institution with the technical capability to provide all-inclusive support in the implementation of GPSC activities across the three key technical areas: leadership, education and training, and research. National governments will be responsible for implementation of country level activities in collaboration with WHO and the academic institution, and other key stakeholders at country level.

Everybody has a role in knowledge sharing, promotion of patient safety core principles and values and advocating for the development and implementation of impactful policies and strategies aimed at improvement of patient safety globally.