



IAPO Statement on Agenda Item agenda item 12.5
Patient safety: Global action on patient safety
SEVENTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Speaker: Dr. Ratna Devi IAPO Board Member

Thank you Chair, honourable members and distinguished delegates.

The International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) is an alliance of patient groups in official relationship with the WHO and representing the interests of patients worldwide. We have over 270 member organizations based in over 70 countries covering over 50 different disease areas.

IAPO welcomes the Director General's Report A72/26 which has come at a very opportunistic moment as the Member States start investing in their healthcare workforce and health systems needed to deliver universal health coverage by 2030.

Patient safety is a central pillar of a compassionate and effective healthcare. Putting patient safety first in universal health coverage will reassure communities that they can trust their health care systems to keep them and their families safe. By implementing the recommendations of the report, Member States will be ensuring that their planning and resourcing processes of universal health coverage delivery do not use flawed and wasteful models of care.

The global patient movement is very grateful to the WHO Secretariat and its risk management, service delivery and safety section for having worked collaboratively with patient groups to bring all patient safety issues into this one comprehensive report. We also thank Ministers who have kept the momentum going on improving global patient safety since 2016 by attending the Global Ministerial Summits on Patient Safety and in their Declarations on Patient Safety in London, Berlin, Tokyo and Jeddah.

IAPO recommends that each Member State enhance expert patient engagement within their national patient safety implementation programmes by creating an enabling environment for their participation at all levels of their healthcare systems.

IAPO invites the Health Assembly to adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board in resolution EB144.R12. We thank and invite all at the WHA 72 to join us to mark the first World Patient Safety Day on 17th September 2019 in solidarity with us.

Thank for your attention