



WHO Flagship Initiative

A Decade of Patient Safety 2020-2030

WHO's response to global call for action on patient safety



**World Health
Organization**



**Patient
Safety**

Patient harm due to adverse events has been recognized as one of the top ten causes of morbidity and mortality globally. May 2019 was a watershed moment for patient safety, when the 72nd World Health Assembly recognized “Patient safety as a global health priority”; adopted resolution WHA72.6 ‘Global Action on Patient Safety’ and established an annual World Patient Safety Day to be observed annually on 17 September. WHA72.6 requests the WHO-DG to “**emphasize patient safety as a key strategic priority in WHO’s work across UHC agenda**”, and “**to formulate a global patient safety action plan** in consultation with Member States, regional economic integration organizations and all relevant stakeholders, including in the private sector”, in addition to several other key actions.

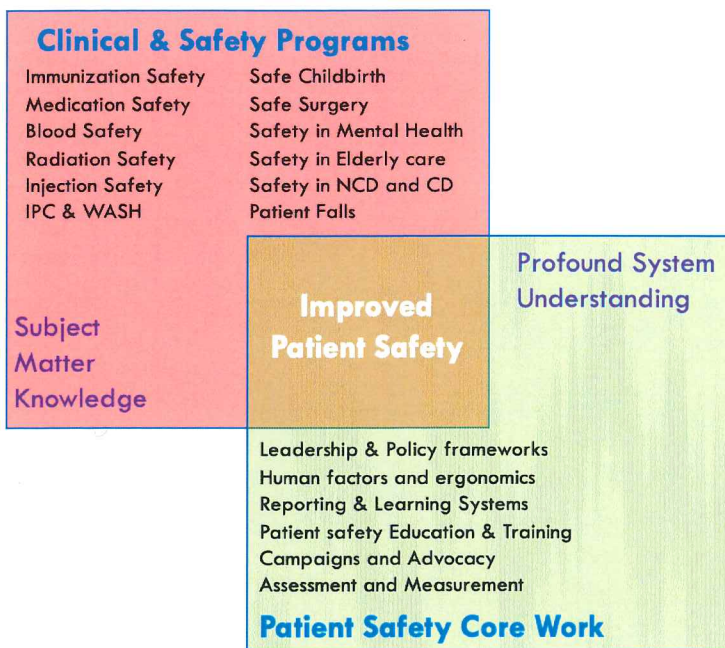
The unprecedented strategic prioritization and profiling of patient safety as global public health priority has placed

WHO’s patient safety work in great demand from Member States asking for WHO to lead the global patient safety movement and provide policy advice, strategic guidance and technical support as referred to in WHA72.6.

WHO is launching a Flagship Initiative “A Decade of Patient Safety 2020-2030” as WHO contribution to the global patient safety movement, and as WHO’s global response to implementing the WHA resolution. This WHO flagship initiative cuts across the different areas of work, teams, departments and divisions in the organization, with linkage of patient

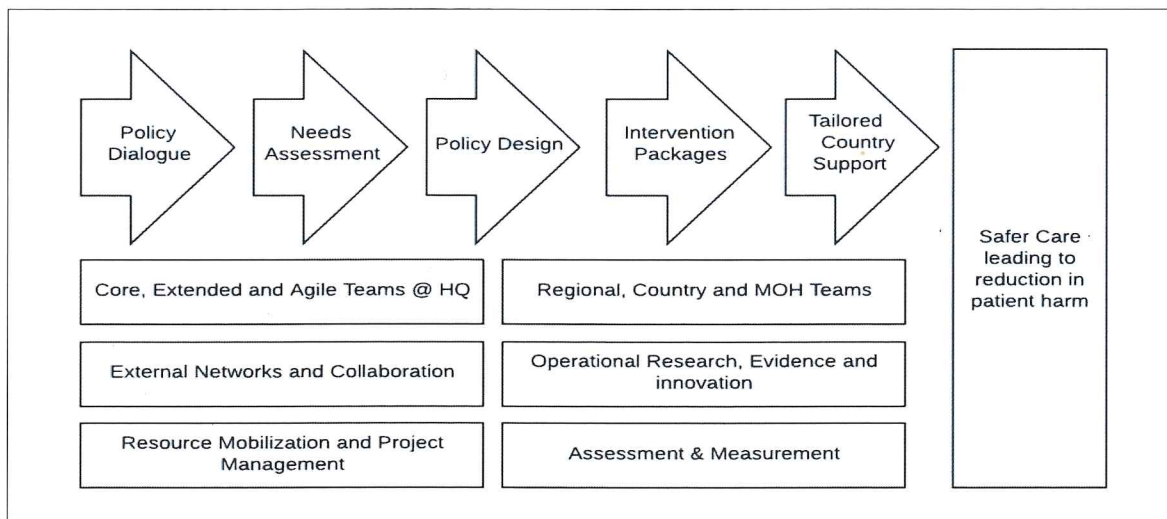
safety and health care safety components across the health systems elements; and linkage across the clinical programmes across the organization for safer patient care.

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Value chain for WHO Flagship initiative on Patient Safety