



**National Accreditation Board for
Hospitals & Healthcare Providers**

(Constituent Board of Quality Council of India)

NABH/Notification/2020/1901

September 17, 2020

World Patient Safety Day

Every year 17 September is traditionally celebrated as "World Patient Safety Day". This year in view of the ongoing pandemic, the theme decided by the World Health Organization, international partners and all countries is "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety."

The overall objectives are to enhance understanding of patient safety, increase public engagement in the safety of healthcare and promote practices to enhance patient safety and reduce patient harm. The origin of the Day is firmly grounded in the fundamental principle of medicine – First, do no harm.

The COVID-19 pandemic is presently among the biggest challenges and threats to face the world and humanity, and health care is living its greatest crisis in patient safety ever! The pandemic has exerted unprecedented pressure on health systems worldwide. Health systems can only function with health workers, and a knowledgeable, skilled and motivated health workforce is critical for the provision of safe care to patients.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the huge challenges health workers are currently facing globally. Working in stressful environments exacerbates safety risks for health workers, including being infected and contributing to outbreaks in the health care facility, having limited access or adherence to personal protective equipment and other infection prevention and control measures, and inducing errors which can potentially harm patients and health workers. In many countries, health workers are facing increased risks of infections, violence, accidents, stigma, illness and death.

Healthcare organizations already registered/accredited/certified with NABH, and having implemented (or may be in the process of implementation) the NABH standards which focus on the quality healthcare that leads to the patient safety & employee safety, NABH encourages you to observe the World Patient Safety Day on 17th September 2020 as "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety" & organize motivational activities in your healthcare organization.

Examples for events and activities are:

- Recognition of exemplary work done by employees
- Special on-the-job-trainings for staff members in the field of patient safety
- Poster competition
- Recognize Patient Safety Champions in your organization
- Skits or dance competition on better patient / employee safety as topic / theme



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- Panel discussions with patient safety experts, healthcare providers, patients, representatives of health insurances or government agencies
- Information events on special topics such as hygiene or safe medication in clinics, hospitals, pharmacies or nursing homes
- Press releases and media interviews

Share the photographs and details of the activities **to be included in the next issue of NABH Newsletter- Quality Connect**. You may also share the stories of extra ordinary courage or grit on the part of the patients and or the staff. We will wait for your stories and photographs at nabh@nabh.co

Looking forward for an interesting response from your end.

Follow Good Quality Practices. Stay Safe. Stay Well.

(Dr. Atul Mohan Kochhar)
CEO-NABH



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Annexure-I

Patient Safety pledge on occasion of first World Patient Safety Day

I, _____ [Name], currently working as

_____ (Please mention your designation)

in _____ (Name of your organization and place) **here by**

Pledge to undertake all actions for promotion of Patient Safety in my Health

Facility, community and country. I commit to dedicate myself to make Health

Care safer by supporting, but not limited to, following actions, namely:

1. Identification and implementation of the ways to reduce errors in patient care
2. Improving our skills and knowledge on all related subjects pertaining to patient safety
3. Actively engaging patients and families as partners in their care
4. Raising public awareness about patient safety
5. Nurturing, supporting and promoting transparency in care through team work
6. Learning from errors for safeguarding interest of patients, and
7. Supporting my professional colleagues in their endeavour of promotion of cause of patient safety.

[SIGNATURE]

[DATE AND PLACE]