



World
Patients
Alliance

WPA AFRICA REGIONAL MEETING

August 25th, 2022

CONCEPT NOTE:

The 1st Africa Patients Virtual Regional Meeting

Theme: Raising patient voices
as a path way to quality and
safe care in Africa



About the World Patients Alliance:

The World Patients Alliance (WPA) is a non-profit umbrella organization of patients and patients' organizations from around the globe. The WPA provides the platform to empower and raise the patients' voice for the provision and access to safe, quality and affordable healthcare. WPA works to ensure patients have an active role to play in all the stages of healthcare that include planning, provision, monitoring, research and evaluation of health services.

Our vision is that all patients have access to safe, high quality and affordable healthcare everywhere in the world. Our mission is to be the global voice of patients working toward patient empowerment & engagement, improved access to safe innovative treatment and patient centered healthcare throughout the world.

The Event Background:

African countries have made progress in integrating of UHC goals in their national health strategies, including interventions to improve quality and safety of care. However, this commitment hasn't translated into significant investments in healthcare service delivery to ensure equitable access to quality and safe health care. Over 615 million people in Africa can't access essential services. The services available are of very low quality and there is low sense of ownership and trust in the health care systems.¹

Quality of health care is the pillar of all universal health coverage. Countries need to build health systems that people can trust through provision of people centered care. People-centered care recognizes the need to have individuals', care givers', families' and communities' perspectives and needs as basis for the design of health care. People centered care also requires that patients have the education and support they need to make decisions and participate in their own care and that care givers are able to attain maximal function within a supportive working environment .

The World Patients Alliance will hold the first patient African Regional Virtual Meeting on August 25, 2022, starting 8:00 am until 4:00 pm EAT. The meeting will provide patients the platform and opportunity to network, exchange information, share experiences, learn from each other, raise voices and advocate for patients cause both regionally as well as globally. The meeting will promote interventions focused on patient engagement and empowerment to achieve quality and safe care in Africa.

The meeting will be a strategic road map, to bring patient organizations, patient communities as well as private and public sector partners, to contribute to the Universal Health Coverage framework of actions to achieve quality and safe care for the African patient, family and community.

The meeting objectives will include;

1. Providing patients, the platform and opportunity to network, exchange information, share experiences on best practices, policies and programs, learn from each other, raise voices and advocate for patients' cause both regionally as well as globally.
2. Promoting interventions under the Universal Health Coverage framework of actions to focus on patient engagement and empowerment to achieve quality and safe care in Africa as well as creation of a pathway for a sustainable platform where patient organizations and partners can collaborate to foster interventions for patient engagement and empowerment to achieve quality and safe care while relating in Africa.

¹ The state of universal health coverage in Africa: Executive summary report on the Africa Health Agenda Internal conference commission (2021).

² Framework on integrated people centered health services: Report by secretariat of sixty ninth world health Assembly (2016).



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The event will present two speaker sessions, each with related topics, and these will include;

Session 1: Global and high-level health stakeholders will present on the Universal Health Coverage framework of actions to promote quality and safe care in Africa, with topics including;

- Reaching national patient quality and safe care goals through developing improved national preparedness plans which include organizational structure of the governments.
- Integrating African patient perspectives in global health frameworks, by establishing platforms and processes to foster societal dialogue.
- Access to quality and affordable for vulnerable populations through low-cost insurance platforms tailored to patient needs.
- Increasing quality and safe care outcomes for the last mile patients through improved efficiency and effectiveness of public and private health spending.
- Supporting medicines/equipment, human resources, supply chain and building global networks of health care givers to establish people-centered health services to improve the quality of services and patient safety.

Session 2: Patient organizations and partners will share case studies and insights on patient engagement in promoting access to quality and care

Event outcomes:

Short Term Outcomes

- Bringing together at least 1,000 members such as healthcare providers, policy makers, industry representatives as well as international and local development agencies.
- The participants will share technical and policy briefs, cases studies and success stories on the Universal Health Coverage framework actions and application in the African region to achieve quality and safe care.

Long Term Outcomes

- Creation of the WPA African Regional Membership Steering Committee, focused on developing and coordinating capacity building interventions for patient organizations to effectively promote and advocate for quality and safe care for the patient.
- Create an online information sharing and knowledge management portal to track progress of African Regional members' work in implementing the UHC framework of actions to achieve quality and safe care for the patient.
- Map and form a network of the African continent patient advocacy working groups to advance patient quality and safe care.



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