



NEWS



At the UN General Assembly's High-Level Meeting on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response, world leaders renewed commitments to strengthen preparedness through equity, solidarity and international cooperation. Discussions highlighted resilient health systems, equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics and treatments, sustainable financing, and stronger community involvement. WPA stresses that future preparedness must translate global commitments into stronger, more equitable and people-centered health systems that protect patients before, during and after health emergencies.

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WHO has outlined the process for developing a 10-year Global Action Plan on Rare Diseases following the 2025 World Health Assembly resolution recognizing rare diseases as a global health priority. The plan will include strategic objectives, global targets and an accountability framework, with consultations involving Member States and relevant stakeholders, including people with lived experience. WPA welcomes progress towards coordinated global action that can support earlier diagnosis, equitable access to care and meaningful participation of the rare disease community.

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Civil Society Calls for Stronger Action and Accountability on Health Financing



Civil society organisations are calling for stronger domestic health financing, greater transparency and accountability, and meaningful participation in health financing decisions. Through consultations convened by the WHO Civil Society Commission and Save the Children, stakeholders stressed that health investments must translate into stronger systems, equitable access and better outcomes for communities. WPA supports financing approaches that protect patients from financial hardship and ensure resources reach essential services and underserved populations.

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Healthy Ageing Progresses Globally, but Greater Investment is Urgently Needed

NEWS



A new midpoint report on the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030) shows that more countries are taking action to support healthy ageing, including through stronger long-term care policies, age-friendly environments and measures to address age discrimination. However, major gaps remain in financing, data, assistive technologies and meaningful engagement of older people. The findings reinforce the need for sustained investment and stronger health and social systems so longer lives can be lived with health, dignity and participation.

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Helen Haskell Receives Prestigious ISQua Award

NEWS



Helen Haskell, Head of Patient Safety at the World Patients Alliance, has received the Presidential Citation for Distinguished Service from the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua). The award recognizes her longstanding contribution to healthcare quality, patient safety and patient engagement, including her work to ensure that the patient perspective remains central to safer care. WPA congratulates Helen on this recognition of her global patient-safety leadership and advocacy.

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The countdown is on for the 3rd World Patients Conference, taking place in Nairobi, Kenya, on **7–8 November 2026** under the theme **“From Voice to Action: Patients Shaping the Health System.”**

With the conference now just weeks away, WPA is preparing to welcome participants to Nairobi for two days of dialogue focused on strengthening the patient voice and turning meaningful patient engagement into practical action across health systems.

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Conference Silver Level Sponsors



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WPA marked World Patient Safety Day 2026 with a global campaign supporting the theme “Safe care for noncommunicable diseases” and the slogan “Safe care for life!”

Through a 10-day social media campaign, social media toolkit, a global webinar, and activities with WPA member patient organisations, the campaign promoted safer, coordinated and patient-centered NCD care. The campaign generated 3 million social media views and supported 438 events worldwide, strengthening awareness, dialogue and patient participation in safer care.

[Learn More](#)



WPA's latest blog under the Heart of Healthcare: Celebrating Our Nurses project examines why supporting the nursing workforce is essential to safe, respectful and patient-centered care. It highlights the close connection between nurses' working conditions and patients' experiences of care, drawing attention to workforce planning, safe staffing, wellbeing, retention and nursing leadership.

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PARTNERS' INSIGHT



PLANS ON PAPER, PROGRESS IN PRACTICE: Elevating Patient Voice in National Cancer Control Planning

Guest post from Pfizer, in partnership with the World Patients Alliance



In this guest post blog, Jennifer Young, Vice President & Head, International Commercial Policy & Communications at Pfizer, explores the importance of strengthening patient involvement in national cancer control planning. The blog considers how patient perspectives can help ensure that cancer plans reflect the needs and experiences of the people they are intended to serve.

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WPA Participation in International Events



Prof. Dr. Hussain Jafri, CEO of WPA, represented WPA at the 84th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Montreal, Canada, on 31 August. Speaking during a session on equitable access to pharmacy-led care, he highlighted the importance of involving patients and caregivers in the design, delivery and evaluation of pharmaceutical services. He called for stronger collaboration among pharmacists, regulators, policymakers, patient organisations and communities to improve access, medicine safety, communication and trust.

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Andrew Spiegel, WPA Chair, represented WPA at a World Medical Association session on the revision of the Declaration of Lisbon on the Rights of the Patient, held during the 18th World Conference on Bioethics, Medical Ethics and Health Law in Porto, Portugal, on 30 September. Presenting WPA's position, he emphasized that patient rights must be meaningful in practice, with patients recognized as partners in care and health systems. WPA's contribution brought the patient perspective directly into the ongoing international revision process.

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Jolanta Bilińska, WPA Treasurer & Board Director, represented WPA at AESGP Switch Day 2026, held in Brussels, Belgium, on 7 October. She brought the patient perspective to discussions on the future of self-care and prescription-to-non-prescription medicines in Europe, emphasizing that

advances in self-care should be supported by clear information, appropriate safeguards, meaningful patient involvement and equitable access. The event brought together stakeholders to examine patient access, regulatory developments, innovation and the role of self-care in supporting sustainable health systems.

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WPA Webinars



World Patients Alliance
The global voice of patients

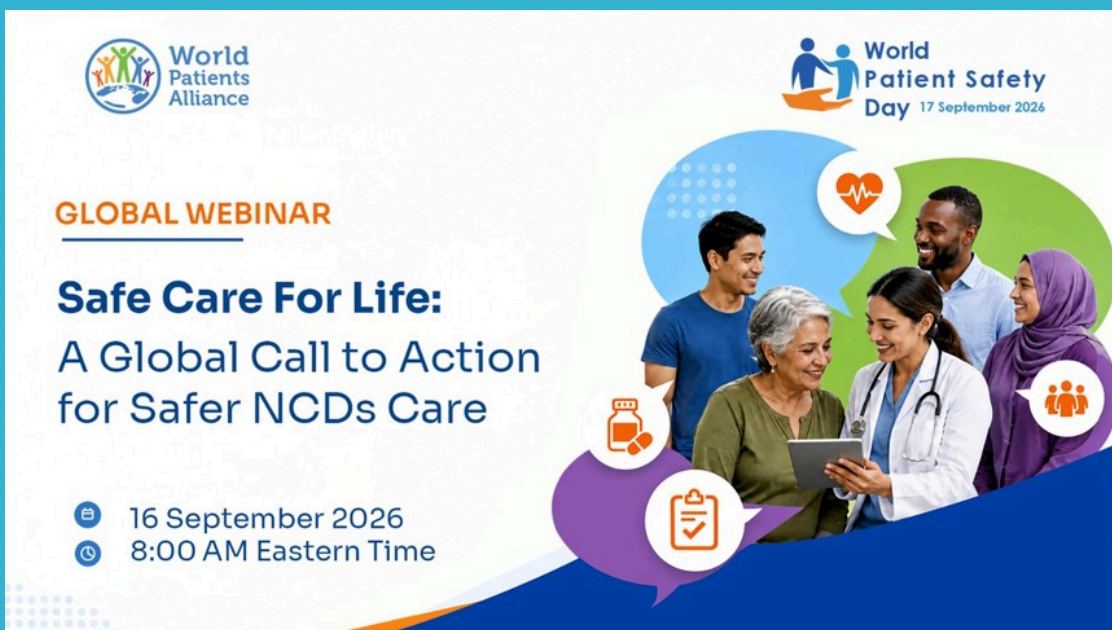
Webinar:

LEARNING TO DIRECT INTELLIGENCE
Co-Working with AI

19 August 2026
08:00 AM EST

WPA and Platform Worldwide hosted a practical webinar exploring how patient organisations can move beyond occasional AI use and adopt a more structured approach to working with artificial intelligence. The session examined applications across advocacy, communications, research, fundraising and project management, while emphasising human judgement, data privacy, governance and accountability. Participants were encouraged to use AI as a co-working tool that can strengthen organisational capacity and efficiency while maintaining accuracy, trust and patient-centred values.

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World Patients Alliance

World Patient Safety Day
17 September 2026

GLOBAL WEBINAR

Safe Care For Life:
A Global Call to Action
for Safer NCDs Care

16 September 2026
8:00 AM Eastern Time

As part of its World Patient Safety Day 2026 activities, WPA hosted a global webinar examining patient safety challenges across the noncommunicable disease care pathway. Bringing together health leaders, policymakers, patient advocates, health workers and patient organisations, the discussion addressed diagnostic delays, medication safety, fragmented care, communication gaps

and barriers to timely access. The webinar also highlighted the importance of supporting health workers, strengthening patient engagement and ensuring patients' voices are included in decisions affecting their care.

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Getting to Know WPA Team



In this edition, we spotlight **Hana Nimer**, WPA Advisory Board Member and Founder of SAID NGO. Hana founded the organisation in 2016 after losing her husband, Said, to colorectal cancer that was diagnosed too late. What began as an awareness initiative has grown into a broader commitment to prevention, early detection, patient support and advocacy. Guided by listening to patients and addressing practical barriers to care, Hana's work focuses on helping people move from awareness to action and ensuring patients receive timely support with dignity, compassion and respect.

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Member Announcements

- [Autoimmune Diseases Day and the Wear Blue Campaign](#) | Date: October 2026
- [Responsible and Transformative AI for Patient Organizations](#) | Date: October 2026
- [Pulse Programs PACC PPS and ACES](#) | Date: 4 November 2026
- [SCUT Community Medical Camp Promoting Health Equity and Access to Quality Healthcare](#) | Date: 6-7 November 2026
- [Medical Camps and Surgical Training in Uganda](#) | Date: 1 September 2027

Member News

- [6th Ride for Health, organized by the Carita Foundation](#)
- [World Thrombosis Day 2026 Promoting Blood Clot Awareness](#)
- [CHAIN Engages Children and Communities on Safe Care for NCDs](#)
- [DLSF Brings the Patient Voice to World Patient Safety Day in Lagos](#)
- [EMPOWER India Hosts a World Patient Safety Day Conference in Thoothukudi](#)
- [COFPAK Participates in the World Patient Safety Conference 2026](#)
- [Children's Cancer Hospital Egypt Places Patients at the Centre of Safety](#)

- **DLSF Supports Community Health at Jollof and Palmie X 2026**
- **ITSAN Summit Connects the TSW Community Through Education and Shared Experience**
- **HOPE Qatar Celebrates Abilities on World Cerebral Palsy Day**
- **AMAL World CML Day Education Campaign**
- **Fifth MENA Congress for Rare Diseases 2026**
- **WWAP Pink Bra Project Supporting Women Affected by Breast Cancer**

Announcement



World Patients Alliance
Prediabetes Awareness & Action Initiative

GLOBAL WEBINAR

**WORKING WITH HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS:
A PARTNERSHIP IN PREDIABETES CARE**

📅 24 November 2026
🕒 08:00 AM EST
📍 ZOOM



[Register now](#)

Good communication can help people with prediabetes better understand their care and take an active role in decisions. On 24 November 2026, WPA will host a webinar exploring how patients can prepare for healthcare appointments, ask useful questions, discuss test results and care options, address practical barriers, and agree on realistic next steps with healthcare providers. The session will also consider how caregivers can support these conversations while respecting patient preferences and privacy.

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Welcoming 55 New WPA Members

Name	Country
Risda-Bangladesh	Bangladesh
Stoma World Kenya	Kenya
Patients For Patient Safety Foundation	India
Auro Health Management Consulting	India

Medswiss Hospicare & Research Institute	India
The Organization For Rare Disease Awareness- Orda	Jordan
Speak Out For Cancer Foundation	Cameroon
National Stroke Aid (NASAID) Organization	Zambia
Hope Beyond Cancer Foundation	Nigeria
Sante Meilleure Vie Meilleure Sm-Vm	Togo
Aba Foundation	Uganda
Centre For Women Justice Uganda (CWJU)	Uganda
Asthma And Allergy Foundation Of West Africa (AAFWA)	Gambia
Cancer Champions Voices Western CBO	Kenya
Chronnect	Mexico
Fundación Ecuatoriana Para Distrofia Muscular Y Enfermedades Raras Fedimura	Ecuador
Udruženje Multiple Skleroze Republike Srpske	Bosnia and Herzegovina

Fundación Colombiana Para Enfermedades Huérfanas – Funcoleh	Colombia
African Social Ambitions Initiative	Tanzania
Tabene Youth Advocacy Network	Zambia
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation Network (OIFN)	UK
Hope Life	Cote d'Ivoire
Human Rights Reporters Ghana	Ghana
Patient Academy For Innovation And Research	India
Rwanda Psoriasis And Psoriatic Arthritis Association	Rwanda
Canadian MPS Society For Mucopolysaccharide & Related Diseases	Canada
The E.WE Foundation	USA

Ong Bedaci Ivory Coast Albino Ngo	Cote d'Ivoire
Kidney Alliance Philippines,Inc.	Philippines
PiCC United	Finland
Umlazi Family Outreach Centre	South Africa
NYANDARUA CANCER AND SUPPORT GROUP COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION	Kenya
RARE DISEASES UGANDA	Uganda
NF Patients United - Global Network of Neurofibromatosis patient organisations	Netherlands
Stowarzyszenie PSCinfo - Wiedza i Nadzieja	Poland
Sicklecell Association Of Uganda	Uganda
SanablAlataa Organization	Sudan
FOCOS Hospital	Ghana
Society Initiative for Women and Children's Empowerment Sierra Leone (SIWEC-SL)	Sierra Leone
Association for Arthritis and Rheumatic Diseases of Kenya (AARD)	Kenya
ATINUKE CANCER FOUNDATION	Nigeria
Kosi-Health Advocates Foundation	Nigeria
ISRADAEL CONSULTING	Kenya
Afya Trials blood disorder Network	Kenya
Muslim Family Counselling Services	Ghana
Allergy Foundation SA	South Africa
Hope Life International	Gambia
NARIKELDAHA PRAYAS	India
CMR East London/ Victory House	South Africa
Royal family Rongai	Kenya
APSBES (Association pour la Promotion de la Santé et du Bien- Être Social)	Togo
Lanka Thalassaemia Organization	Cyprus

MENA Organization for Rare Diseases	UAE
David Omenukor Foundation	USA
Onco intelligence	Tanzania

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