



# Patients' Voice

November 2023

## NEWS

### WPA Asia Pacific Regional Meeting



The vibrant city of Dubai played host to the World Patients Alliance's much-anticipated Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting on November 4 and 5, 2023. This gathering brought together an eclectic mix of global leaders from patient organizations, passionate patient advocates, and dedicated healthcare stakeholders.

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### Partners' Insight: The PALC Collective & the Importance of Capacity Building



Powered by 

#### THE PATIENT ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE & THE IMPORTANCE OF CAPACITY BUILDING

Emma Andrews  
Vice President, Global Patient Advocacy  
Pfizer



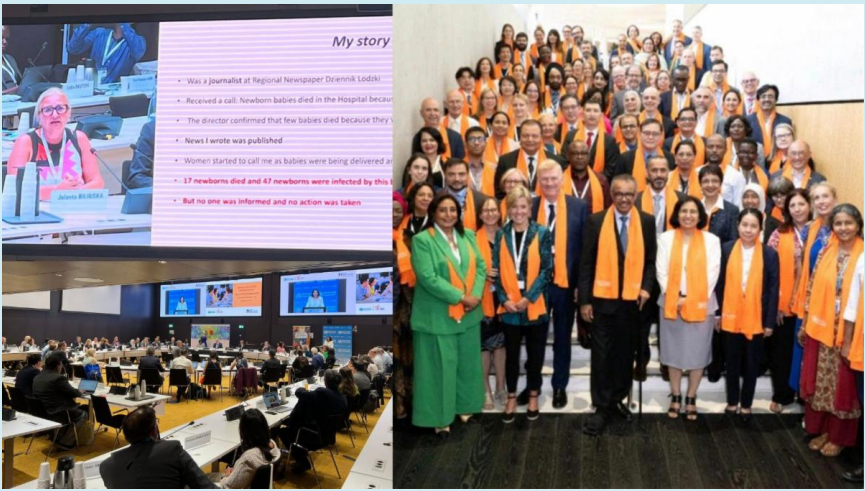
**Patient Advocacy Leadership Collective**

LEARN MORE AT  
[PATIENTADVOCACY.COM](https://PATIENTADVOCACY.COM)

There is immense power in listening and learning from the patient perspective. Through meeting patient advocates and hearing their stories, I witness this in my role everyday as Pfizer's Vice President of Global Patient Advocacy. To ensure that we are listening and learning from patients, Pfizer values its Global Patient Advocacy Advisory Board to provide counsel and share their experiences.

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### World Patient Safety Day 2023: WHO Global Conference "Engaging Patients For Patient Safety"



In commemoration of World Patient Safety Day 2023, the World Health Organization (WHO) hosted a groundbreaking Global Conference titled “Engaging Patients for Patient Safety” in Geneva, Switzerland, from September 12th to 13th. This pivotal event provided a platform for diverse stakeholders to convene, exchange experiences, and deliberate on strategies to enhance patient safety through active patient engagement. The conference aimed to facilitate collaboration, identify best practices, and pave the way for their widespread implementation across various healthcare settings.

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WPA applauds WHO's Progress in Advancing Self-Care Interventions for Health & Well-being

WPA congratulates the World Health Organization (WHO) Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research for their successful consultation on the development of implementation guidance for self-care interventions held from September 18th to 20th, 2023, at WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Read More



World Leaders Unite for Global Health Initiatives: WHO Highlights Progress and Commitments at UN General Assembly

New York/Geneva - 12 Sep, 2023. In a historic series of events at the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 78), world leaders and global health organizations have come together to address critical public health challenges.

Read More

New WHO Civil Society Commission To Strengthen Civil Society Organizations' Role In Accelerating Progress In Global Health

WHO launched the WHO Civil Society Commission and held the inaugural meeting of its Steering Committee in Geneva on 24th August 2023. The historical role of civil society organizations (CSO) in bringing about change in public health is well-known.

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WHO Launches A New Global Initiative On Digital Health

On 19th August, 2023, WHO and the G20 India presidency announced a new **Global Initiative on Digital Health** (GIDH) at the Health Minister’s Meeting of the G20 Summit hosted by the Government of India. The new GIDH initiative (pronounced “guide” for short) will operate as a WHO-managed network and platform to support the implementation of the Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020–2025.

Read More

Getting to Know the WPA Board of Directors

To help our Board Directors know each other a little better and understand why we give our time and talents freely to support and grow the World Patients Alliance, we will be featuring an interview with each Board Director over the next few issues. To read exclusive Q&As with her, click Meet Jolanta Bilińska.

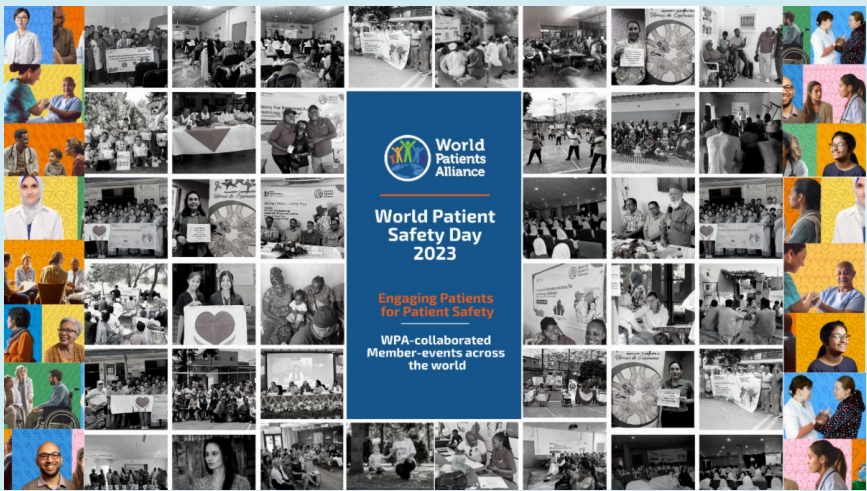


Meet Jolanta Bilińska

Jolanta Bilińska  
Founding Director, Treasurer WPA

Jolanta holds an M.A. in Clinical Psychology along with a diverse and impactful professional journey. Initially, she specialized in diagnosing personality disorders in hospitalized children and teenagers. In early 90s, she joined a regional newspaper – DziennikŁódzki, as an Investigative Journalist covering primarily the Health beat. She published almost 2000 articles concerning medical issues and politics. Subsequently, she transitioned into a patient advocate role. Since 2005, she has been the WHO's Patients for Patient Safety champion and currently, is an Advisory Group member of PFPS..

World Patient Safety Day 2023



“Engaging Patients for Patient Safety” was selected as the theme for World Patient Safety Day 2023. WPA organized world-largest campaigns by organizing over 1200 events in the years 2021 and 2022. This year, in 2023, WPA took the lead again by organizing around 400 events internationally in collaboration with its member organizations elevating the voice of patients in all disease areas and regions of the world.

WPSD 2023 Celebrations

Post-Event Report

# World Patient Safety Day 2023 - WPA Webinars

In commemoration of World Patient Safety Day 2023 and to strengthen its objectives of patient safety and patient engagement, WPA organized two Webinars, for mass awareness, where leaders of patient advocacy and healthcare experts shared their insights with a keen audience. The 1st webinar was titled **What is a clinical Trial and why should I be involved?** dated 5 September and the 2nd webinar was titled **Patient engagement in patient safety around the world** dated 20 September. Renowned healthcare experts from WHO, CIOMS, Stanford University and patient advocates from around the world graced the events with their thoughts.

**World Patients Alliance**

**World Patient Safety Day**  
17 September 2023

**Webinar: What is a Clinical Trial and Why Should I be Involved?**

**Meet Our Speakers**

**Dr. Sam Mickey**  
MD, PhD  
Stanford University  
USA

**Dr. Hans-Martin MBChB, PhD**  
World Health Organization  
Switzerland

**Linda Ridge MD, PhD**  
CIOMS  
Switzerland

**Ruth Nankunda-Mahliki**  
Sickle-cell Association  
Uganda

**Christin Weisley**  
Chronic Pain Research Alliance, USA

**5 September 2023**  
**11 AM to 12 PM EST**

[www.worldpatientsalliance.org](http://www.worldpatientsalliance.org)  
**1 WHAT IS A CLINICAL TRIAL AND WHY SHOULD I BE INVOLVED?**  
**05 SEP 2023**

**World Patients Alliance**

**World Patient Safety Day**  
20 September 2023

**Webinar: PATIENT ENGAGEMENT IN PATIENT SAFETY AROUND THE WORLD**

**20TH SEPTEMBER 2023**  
**11 AM TO 12 PM EDT**

**DR. NEELAM DHINORA**  
WHO  
Unit Head, WHO Patient Safety Flagship

**HELEN HASKELL**  
USA  
Chair, WPA Patient Safety & Quality Council

**JOLANTA BILINSKA**  
Poland  
Presiding Director WPA / Patient Safety Foundation

**STEPHANIE NEWELL**  
Australia  
Australian Consumer Advocate

**CAROL BENNET**  
Australia  
Australian Consumer Advocate

**NAGWA METWALLY**  
Egypt  
Patients for Patient Safety

**PATIENT ENGAGEMENT IN PATIENT SAFETY AROUND THE WORLD**  
**20 SEP 2023**

Webinar: Clinical Trial

Webinar: Patient Engagement

## Members' Corner

### Members' News

WPA has launched a campaign to promote and highlight the excellent work its member patient organizations are doing globally. Please [click here](#) to see members news all over the world.

- **CancerCon 2023 by Stupid Cancer Inc., USA**
- **Dementia Friends Session by Alzheimer's Pakistan, Pakistan**
- **WPA Collaborated WPSD 2023 events all over the world by member organizations.**

If you are interested in showcasing your event on WPA social media, website, and newsletter. Please [click here](#) to submit your event details.

### Members' Announcements



2<sup>ND</sup> BRAZILIAN FORUM OF  
HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT  
FOR RARE DISEASES

2nd Brazilian Forum of  
Health Technology  
Assessment for Rare  
Diseases

November 22, 2023

Learn More

### WPA Welcomes New Members

Member Organization	Country
Patient Safety Learning	UK
Patients and Citizens Involvement in Health	Zambia
V-Strong Vitiligo Support Community	USA
Eczema Society of Kenya	Kenya
FOKUS Patient	Sweden
Center for Ichthyosis Related Members – CIRM	India
Rheumatology Educational Trust Foundation Inc.	Philippines
Helping Hands Foundation	Pakistan
Systemic Sclerosis Filipinas Inc. (SSFI)	Philippines
Kakehashi-npo	Japan
Hong Kong Psoriasis Patients Association	Hong Kong
Albinism Fellowship of Australia	Australia
Bhutan Cancer Society	Bhutan
Vietnam Psoriasis Association PSORVIET	Vietnam
Vietnam Vitiligo Association	Vietnam
Shweta Association	India
Eczema Association of Australasia Inc	Australia
Rare Skin Disease Nepal	Nepal
The Honeybee Childrens Clinic	Kenya
Institute of Neurosciences Kolkata	India



China Chronic Skin Disease Fund	China
Pahuja Trust for Blood Disorders and Thalassemia	India
Africa Cancer Foundation	Kenya
Lok Bandhu Raj Narayan Combined Hospital Lucknow	India
Axios International	UAE/Ireland
Center of Excellence for Patient Safety and Quality	Indonesia
General authority for Healthcare accreditation and regulations-GAHAR	Egypt
Africa Access Health	Liberia

## WPA Announcements

### Cape Town 2024: 2nd World Patients Conference



### Workshop on Sustainability

## Workshop on Sustainability

Meet Our Speakers

Andrew Spiegel Esq.  
Chair WPA

Hussain Jafri  
Founding Director  
World Patients Alliance

Sylvia Basterrechea  
Geneva Sustainability Center

Sara Perazzi  
International Hospital  
Federation

**16** NOV 2023 | 08 AM - 9 AM Eastern Time

**REGISTER NOW**

World Patients Alliance  
worldpatientsalliance.org

International Hospital Federation  
ihf-fih.org/

Sustainability in healthcare is crucial because it ensures that medical services are provided in a way that meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This approach is highly relevant to patient safety as it encompasses efficient resource management, reduced environmental impact, resilience during emergencies, health equity, infection control, and patient-centered care.

WPA, along with its partner [International Hospital Federation – Geneva Sustainability Center](#), is organizing a Workshop on Sustainability on 16 November 2023, from 8 am to 9 am ET.

Register Now

Learn More

### Webinar: Patient Centered Care and Patient Engagement

## WEBINAR

### Patient Centered Care & Patient Engagement

**01 DEC 2023**  
**9 AM EST | 3 PM CEST**

**REGISTER NOW**

World Patients Alliance  
worldpatientsalliance.org

ICN  
International Council of Nurses  
icn.ch

At World Patients Alliance, we recognize the paramount importance of Patient Centered Care and Patient Engagement in shaping a healthcare landscape that truly prioritizes individuals and patients. WPA, along with [International Council of Nurses](#), is organizing a Webinar: Patient Centered Care & Patient Engagement on 1 December 2023, at 9 AM EST (3 PM CEST). Join us in our commitment to a healthcare future that places patients firmly in the driver’s seat of their well-being.

Register Now

Learn More

# Partners' Events



**The 46th World Hospital Congress** by The International Hospital Federation.  
(Lisbon, Portugal, 25 - 27 October 2023)

[Read More](#)



**Seoul 2023: The 39th International Conference** by ISQua.  
(Seoul, Korea, 27 - 30 August 2023)

[Read More](#)

## Articles



**Access to Care**  
By [Penney Cowan](#) | Founding Director WPA

For many of us access to care is not something that we struggle with or even give much thought. We may have a great health care insurance or live in a country where you have universal health coverage. But for the more than three billion people who lack any kind of health care it becomes life threatening to them and their families.

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