The World Health Organization Service Delivery and Safety Department

The World Health Organization's Service Delivery and Safety Department (WHO SDS) is a major force to help countries build or strengthen health service delivery systems that are safe, accessible, high quality, people-centred and integrated, in the context of Universal Health Coverage. The SDS mission is to identify, develop and disseminate knowledge models for effective interventions, and innovative tools for countries to increase the quality and safety of their health services delivery. WHO SDS runs major programmes in services integration and regulation, as well as clinical interventions such as blood safety and injection safety. SDS is currently leading safety and quality improvement efforts in all six WHO regions, including programmes such as African Partnerships for Patient Safety. SDS is also leading worldwide efforts to scale up the use of the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist and is also testing implementation of the Safe Childbirth Checklist. Together with its sister programme at WHO, the Evidence-informed Policy Network (EVIPNet), WHO SDS promotes the use of scientific evidence in health policy-making.
