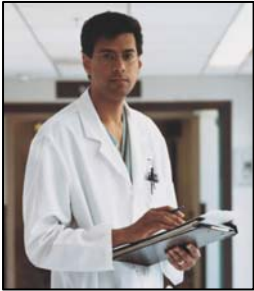




**World Health Organization
Launch of Safe Surgery Saves Lives initiative
World Alliance for Patient Safety
25 June 2008, Washington, DC**



Speaker Biographies



Dr Atul Gawande, Leader, Safe Surgery Saves Lives initiative

Dr Atul Gawande is leading the Safe Surgery Saves Lives initiative of the WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety. Dr Gawande is an Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health and a practising General Surgeon at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He is also an internationally recognized writer on medicine with a wide-ranging track record of research leadership in patient safety.



Dr Mirta Roses-Periago, Regional Director AMRO, Director PAHO

Dr Mirta Roses Periago is the Director of the Pan American Health Organization. She was elected in 2003 as the first woman and first Argentine to lead PAHO and is currently serving her second term. Prior to her election, she held numerous posts in PAHO, including Assistant Director and PAHO/WHO Representative in Bolivia and the Dominican Republic.



Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer, England

Sir Liam Donaldson is the Chair of the World Alliance for Patient Safety, established by the Director-General of the World Health Organization in October 2004 and the Chief Medical Officer for England, United Kingdom. As such, he is the British Government's chief adviser on all health issues. He is a member of the European Chief Medical Officer's Committee and an honorary Chair in Applied Epidemiology at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Sir Liam has a prolific publication record including a standard text book of public health and chapters contributed to a further 20 medical texts. In 2002, Sir Liam received a knighthood in recognition of his achievements in health and health care.



Dr Timothy Evans, Assistant Director-General - Information Evidence and Research, World Health Organization

Dr Tim Evans, of Canada, is the Assistant Director-General for Information, Evidence and Research. Previously, Dr Evans was the Assistant Director-General for Evidence and Information for Policy. He has a Bachelor of Social Sciences from the University of Ottawa and a D.Phil in Agricultural Economics from the University of Oxford, as well as a Doctor of Medicine from McMaster University in Canada. Dr Evans trained in internal medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital at Harvard University. He was an assistant professor of international health economics at the Harvard School of Public Health. From 1997-2003, Dr Evans was Director of Health Equity at the Rockefeller Foundation.



Susan Sheridan, Leader, Patients for Patient Safety

Susan Sheridan is the leader of the Patients for Patient Safety programme of the WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety . Ms Sheridan is the co-founder of Consumers Advancing Patient Safety, a non-profit organization that seeks a safe, compassionate and just health care system through pro-active partnership between consumers and providers of care.