**Patient safety practices in SBV**

Dear all!!! Brothers and sisters welcome to the audio podcast series of Sir Balaji Vidyapeeth

As it goes with the Hippocrates Oath “*Primum non-nocere*” which means ‘*First do no harm*, is one of the principal precepts of bioethics thought in all medical schools over the globe as a doctrine to be followed when it comes to patient safety.

Patient safety is a healthcare practice that has emerged as a primary healthcare need as a result of the rise in patient harm in the healthcare system owing to its evolving complexities. Aiming at reducing risks, errors, and harm to patients during the provision of healthcare, it undergoes unceasing improvements by learning from errors and adverse events.

Patient safety is elemental in delivering quality healthcare services which should be timely, equitable, integrated, and efficient.

To ensure successful implementation of patient safety strategies; clear policies, leadership capacity, data to drive safety improvements, skilled health care professionals, and effective involvement of patients in their care, are all needed.

Each year, 134 million adverse events occur in hospitals in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), due to unsafe care, resulting in 2.6 million deaths. Globally, as many as 4 in 10 patients are harmed in primary and outpatient health care. Up to 80% of harm is preventable. The most detrimental errors are related to diagnosis, prescription, and the use of medicines

To err is human, and expecting flawless performance from human beings working in complex, high-stress environments is unrealistic. Humans are guarded against making mistakes when placed in an error-proof environment where the systems, tasks, and processes they work in are well designed. This is a culture where a high level of importance is placed on safety beliefs, values, and attitudes and shared by most people within the workplace.

Formulating effective algorithms, standard operating procedures, and practicing evidence-based medicine will improve work productivity and minimizes potential risks & errors.

At SBV **Patient Safety is Utmost Priority**, a motto that drives our healthcare wheels and stays fastened to the hands of our healthcare system. Committees of experts with their humongous knowledge and experience guide them to be on track and stay committed as effective health care providers.

The institution-wise Committee, at SBV, helps to educate and steer the health care system towards improving patients’ standards without compromising quality and safety.

Pharmacovigilance committee – helps in identifying the causal relation between an ADR and the drug

Hospital infection control committee – Helps to provide an infection-free environment and aids in preventing iatrogenic infections

Hospital patient care monitoring committee - ensures Quality health care is provided to the patient

Patient care review committee – collects feedback from patients & health care providers to review and upscale standards when required.

Institutional human ethics committee – Reviews and defines safety standards in any research involving human participants. upholds the pillars of ethics and monitors every research including clinical trials.

Morbidity mortality review committee – helps in identifying the problems and defining the course of action henceforth.

Others include, the biomedical waste management committee, institutional biosafety committee, etc. helps in minimizing the exposure of patients to the hazardous environment and potential risks that arise from it.

Institutions under SBV accredited by bodies like NABH and ISO under the quality council of India ensure quality services towards patient care and imparts high standards when comes to patient safety.

Every year World patient safety day is celebrated on September 17 by WHO with the objective to

1. RAISE global awareness of the high burden of medication-related harm due to medication errors and unsafe practices, and ADVOCATE urgent action to improve medication safety.
2. ENGAGE key stakeholders and partners in the efforts to prevent medication errors and reduce medication-related harm.
3. EMPOWER patients and families to be actively involved in the safe use of medication.
4. SCALE UP implementation of the WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge: *Medication Without Harm*.

To conclude Patient safety is pivotal for high-quality health care. Patients play a key role in ensuring the safety of medical care. Improving communication with patients, listening to their concerns, and facilitating active partnerships with the stakeholders should be central to an effective patient safety strategy.

Let us join hands to create a safe and effective health care system.