

# Helsinki Declaration on Patient Safety in Anaesthesiology

- [Aims](#)

Declaration was endorsed by EBA and ESA

officially launched at the Euroanaesthesia congress in Helsinki in June 2010 signed by several representatives of European anaesthesiology and other stakeholders (WHO, World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA), European Patients Federation (EPF))

## Principal requirements

1. All institutions providing perioperative anaesthesia care to patients (in Europe) should comply with the minimum standards of monitoring recommended by the EBA both in operating theatres and in recovery areas.
2. All such institutions should have protocols and the necessary facilities for managing the following
  - Preoperative assessment and preparation
  - Checking Equipment and drugs
  - Syringe labelling
  - Difficult/failed intubation
  - Malignant hyperpyrexia
  - Anaphylaxis
  - Local anaesthetic toxicity
  - Massive haemorrhage
  - Infection control
  - Postoperative care including pain relief
3. All institutions providing sedation to patients must comply with anaesthesiology recognised sedation standards for safe practice.
4. All institutions should support the WHO Safe Surgery Saves Lives initiative and Checklist.
5. All departments of anaesthesiology in Europe must be able to produce an annual report of measures taken and results obtained in improving patient safety locally.
6. All institutions providing anaesthesiological care to patients must collect the required data to be able to produce an annual report on patient morbidity and mortality.
7. All institutions providing anaesthesiological care to patients must contribute to the recognised national or other major audits of safe practice and critical incident reporting systems. Resources must be provided to achieve this.

## References

- <http://www.euroanaesthesia.org/sitecore/Content/Publications/Helsinki%20Declaration.aspx>

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