



# Kenya Medical Association

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

KMA CENTRE, CHYULU ROAD, P.O. BOX 48502 – 00100 GPO, NAIROBI-KENYA

Mobile: 0722-275695

Email: [nec@kma.co.ke](mailto:nec@kma.co.ke)

Website: [www.kma.co.ke](http://www.kma.co.ke)

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

### **Statement from the Kenya Medical Association on World Patient Safety Day 2023**

The Kenya Medical Association (KMA) is the umbrella professional association for doctors in Kenya. It has a twin mission: To champion for the welfare of doctors and advocate for quality healthcare in Kenya and beyond. In line with its commitment to provision of quality healthcare, KMA has been at the forefront in advocating for a patient centered approach to delivery of care.

Recent empirical evidence underscores the pivotal role that patients, their families, and caregivers can play in the safety and efficacy of healthcare services. Treatment outcomes, patient satisfaction, and overall safety metrics are demonstrably improved when patients are integrated as active participants in their healthcare journey. In cognizance of this, we align ourselves with the World Health Organization's slogan for this year: "Elevate the voice of patients!"

On World Patient Safety Day 2023, under the pertinent theme "Engaging patients for patient safety," the Kenya Medical Association (KMA) would like to extend its unyielding support and commitment to patient safety in healthcare delivery across the nation by:

- Wholeheartedly endorsing the call to action that necessitates involving patients at every level of healthcare governance—be it policy formulation, strategy co-design, or decision-making processes related to patient safety.
- Inviting all healthcare workers to adopt this multi-faceted engagement which is consonant with global directives such as Resolution WHA72.6—"Global action on patient safety"—and the Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-2030 that form an essential strategy towards the eradication of avoidable harm in healthcare settings.
- Urging healthcare institutions, policymakers, and all stakeholders to actively establish platforms where diverse patients, families, and communities can voice their concerns, expectations, and preferences. Such participatory frameworks are indispensable for advancing not only safety but also patient-centeredness, trustworthiness, and healthcare equity.

**President**  
**Dr. Simon Kigundu**

**Vice-President**  
**Dr. Amos Otara**

**Secretary-General**  
**Dr. Diana Marion**

**Assistant Secretary-General**  
**Dr. Elizabeth Gitau**

**Treasurer-General**  
**Dr. Lyndah Kemunto**

- We call upon the Ministry of Health to prioritize the allocation of necessary resources—financial, human, and infrastructural—for the expeditious and effective roll-out of established policies and action plans. A steadfast commitment to implementation will substantiate the Ministry’s resolve to improve healthcare safety and quality across the country.

The Kenya Medical Association would like to extend its commendation to the Ministry of Health Kenya for the laudable initiative of formulating the National Policy on Patient Safety, Health Worker Safety, and Quality of Care 2022, as well as the accompanying National Action Plan. These strategic documents signal a transformative step toward enhancing the safety and quality of healthcare in Kenya. We would also like to acknowledge and appreciate the efforts that various health sector players have made in ensuring safer environments for our health workers and fostering quality care for our patients.

KMA is committed to facilitating and supporting such initiatives and will continue to work collaboratively with both governmental and non-governmental organizations to ensure the full realization of these goals. Together, let us forge a path that actively recognizes and incorporates the inalienable role of the patient in enhancing healthcare safety.



**DR. DIANA MARION**  
**SECRETARY GENERAL**  
**KENYA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

**President**  
**Dr. Simon Kigundu**

**Vice-President**  
**Dr. Amos Otara**

**Secretary-General**  
**Dr. Diana Marion**

**Assistant Secretary-General**  
**Dr. Elizabeth Gitau**

**Treasurer-General**  
**Dr. Lyndah Kemunto**