HELSINKI DECLARATION ON PATIENT SAFETY IN ANAESTHESIOLOGY
1. All institutions providing perioperative care to patients should comply with the minimum safety standards set down by the Helsinki Declaration on Patient Safety in Anaesthesiology. Close cooperation between European organisations will be required to achieve these goals, for which the input and efforts of the European Society of Anaesthesiology (ESA) will be instrumental:

### HEADS OF AGREEMENT

Anaesthesiology has been a key specialty in medicine leading the development of patient safety. We are not alone in this effort. Critical incidents occur around the world every day and no health system can afford to ignore such events.

Our partners in industry have an important role to play in developing, manufacturing and supplying safe drugs and equipment.

Human factors play a large part in the delivery of safe care to patients, and we will work with our surgical, nursing and administrative colleagues to improve this.

We believe that effective preoperative assessment and preparation is a key step in improving patient safety. All patients should have a clinical history reviewed and an appropriate clinical evaluation performed.

The funders of healthcare have a right to expect that perioperative anaesthesia care will be delivered safely and effectively and at a reasonable cost.

The creation of opportunities to provide feedback to further improve the process for others.

We will reconvene to annually review our progress to implement this declaration.

We aim to:

- Provide feedback to others and publish our progress.
- Improve the quality and safety of perioperative anaesthesia care for patients.
- Reduce the risk of adverse events and harm to patients.
- Promote research and development of interventions and tools for improvement.
- Improve the safety of care for patients around the world.

**DURING THE EUROANAESTHESIA 2010 OPENING CEREMONY, SATURDAY 12 JUNE 2010, THE HELSINKI DECLARATION WILL BE SIGNED BY:**

Prof. Johannes Knape (NL)
President, European Society of Anaesthesiology

Prof. Daniela Filipescu (RO)
Non-Officer, European Society of Anaesthesiology

Dr. Jozef Firment
Treasurer, European Board of Anaesthesiology/UEMS

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### REFERENCES


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### HELSINKI DECLARATION ON PATIENT SAFETY IN ANAESTHESIOLOGY HAS BEEN APPROVED!

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