

Patient Safety – are there any achievements so far?

Mag. Dr. Gerald Sendlhofer

“To err is human” can be regarded as the trigger of a new era of patient safety. Everybody is talking about “patient safety”, but what happened since then? Several instruments and tools, already well known in the aviation industry, were implemented in the healthcare sector. Just to mention a few patient safety tools, major focus had been given on “Critical Incident Reporting Systems” (CIRS), simulation-based training or the implementation of the WHO-Surgical Safety Checklist. However, implementing a new tool into existing processes often evokes criticism of healthcare professionals. 17 years after the “trigger”-publication, can we detect any achievements so far?