First-Ever Safe-a-thon at the 12th International Patient Safety Conference (IPSC)

Introduction

The 12th International Patient Safety Conference (IPSC) marked a significant milestone in its journey of fostering innovation and collaboration in healthcare with the launch of the first-ever Safe-a-thon. The Safe-a-thon was conceptualized as a unique platform to bring together healthcare professionals, innovators, and problem-solvers to generate practical, innovative, and sustainable solutions to pressing patient safety challenges.

Participation

A total of **16 teams** from leading hospitals and healthcare organizations across the country participated in the inaugural Safe-a-thon. Each team consisted of professionals with diverse expertise in patient safety, clinical practice, quality, and innovation.

The teams assembled at Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, New Delhi, for a full-day collaborative exercise. The format encouraged cross-learning, brainstorming, and creative ideation, ensuring a vibrant exchange of ideas and practical approaches to patient safety.



Problem Statements

During the Safe-a-thon, participants worked intensively on **two critical problem statements** designed to reflect real-world challenges faced in healthcare delivery. The focus was on developing innovative, implementable, and scalable solutions with direct relevance to patient safety.

Shortlisting Process

Following the day-long ideation and solution development process, the jury reviewed all team submissions. Based on criteria such as **innovation**, **feasibility**, **sustainability**, **and impact on patient safety**, **five teams** were shortlisted for the final round.

Final Presentations

The **final round of presentations** took place on the morning of the concluding day of IPSC, in front of an esteemed jury panel comprising senior healthcare leaders, patient safety experts, and industry representatives. Each shortlisted team showcased their solutions, highlighting the problem identified, the methodology adopted, and the practical application of their proposed innovations.



Winners of the First Safe-a-thon

After careful deliberation, the jury selected the top three winners of the inaugural Safe-a-thon:

- Winner: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi
- First Runner-up: Narayana Health, Bangalore
- Second Runner-up: Medanta Hospital, Gurugram



Conclusion

The Safe-a-thon successfully demonstrated the power of collaborative innovation in addressing patient safety challenges. It provided a platform for healthcare professionals to go beyond discussions and actively **co-create practical solutions**.

The enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment displayed by all 16 participating teams were truly commendable. The success of this first edition lays a strong foundation for making the Safe-a-thon an integral part of future IPSC conferences, inspiring continued innovation in patient safety.