

ISR participated in successful WHO World Patient Safety Day webinar

On the occasion of [World Patient Safety Day](#) (WPSD), which is celebrated on September 17 each year, the WHO organized a webinar on Improving diagnosis for patient safety in medical imaging. The ISR was one of the Non-State Actors in official relations with the WHO invited to contribute to the webinar.

In her welcoming remarks, Emilie van Deventer, Head of the Radiation and Health Unit at WHO, underlined the importance patient safety plays for the WHO, a message that is supported by Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (see video address on the WHO WPSD webpage [here](#)).

Adriana Velazquez Berumen, Team Lead, Medical Devices and In Vitro Diagnostics at WHO, gave a presentation on the [WHA Resolution on Strengthening Diagnostics Capacity](#), which was ratified by the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2023 and which the ISR supported by coordinating a multi-stakeholder constituency statement. Another item on the agenda was a panel discussion moderated by Ferid Shannoun, the ISR's Designated Technical Officer at WHO, on the NGOs' role in improving medical radiological diagnosis to enhance patient safety. Being part of the panel, ISR President Bibb Allen had the honor to introduce the ISR and its activities. He mentioned, among other things, the ISR's focus on low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) as well as the role of the ISRQSA and the ISR's educational activities in collaboration with the WHO and the IAEA. Dr. Allen underlined that improving patient safety and diagnosis is connected to the ISR's main activity, namely, to strengthen efforts towards improving advanced diagnostic imaging in LMICs. He concluded by stating that the ISR appreciates the WHO's activities regarding the Diagnostics Resolution, which is, however, only the first step, and that he looked forward to further initiatives regarding imaging.

By way of conclusion, F. Shannoun summarized the take-home message, saying that the right diagnosis at the right time is essential and that engaging with patients and their families is vital to take the right decision and the right modality.

