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Designing for the Future: Community, Resilience and Sustainability

# RESEARCH STRATEGY ON PATIENT SAFETY: LINKING THEORY TO PRACTICE

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# RESULTS

#### INTRODUCTION

- Research is an essential cornerstone for improvement the patient safety (PS).
- > In Estonia, the research in PS is currently in the start-up stage.
- There is a need for clearly formulated research strategy in PS.
- The Faculty of Medicine at the University of Tartu (FM-UT) as a single medical school in Estonia is responsible for PS research and development nationwide.
- Development of the institutional PS research strategy for the FM-UT is one of aims of the PATSAFE project initiated in 2019.

#### MAPPING THE SITUATION

- The search in Estonian Research Information System resulted in only 69 publications related to PS research;
- The topics studied were heterogeneous and depending rather on researchers' personal interest than on the real needs of the society.

#### **SWOT ANALYSIS**

- Input for the
  - definition of the problem,
  - formulation of the objectives, and
  - Development of the implementation plan

#### RESEARCH PRIORITIES

Based on the experts' consensus

Safety culture in healthcare facilities

**Education and training** 

Integration the PS in the

under- and postgraduate

Improvement of knowledge

Development of continuous

involvement the practitioners

professional training in PS

curricula of FM-TU

in PS research

Patient's pathways

Safety improvement strategies

Patient safety competencies and training needs

To describe the strategy development process which took place between October 2020-December 2021:

- mapping the situation,
- setting the objectives,
- defining the research priorities, and
- setting up the implementation plan for 2022-2026.

### **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2022–2026**

# Research

- Safety culture in healthcare organisations
  - Validation of the instruments
  - Assessment of safety culture
- patient's pathways

Analysis and improvement of

- Reporting systems and analysis of adverse events
- Global Trigger Tool in the care of multimorbid patients in Estonia
- Improvement of surgical safety
- Assessment of PS competencies and training needs among the health care staff
- Second victim and psychological safety

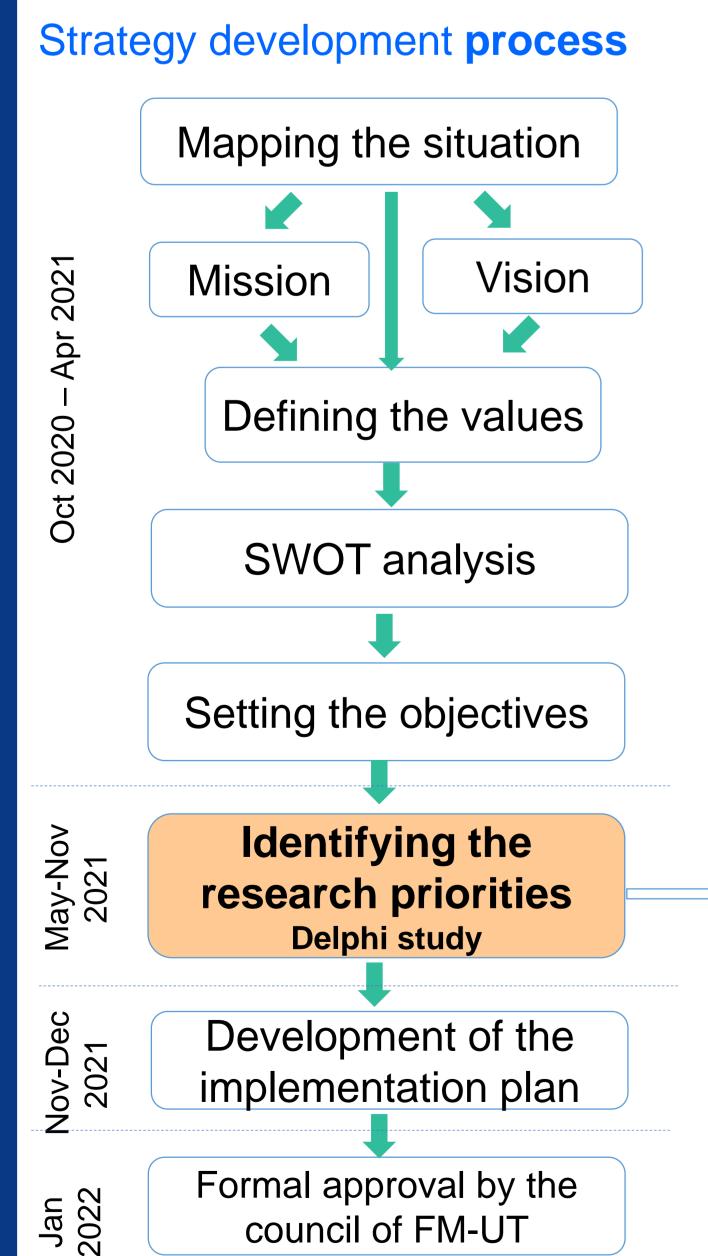
#### Dissemination, outreach and policy development

- Communication and dissemination
  - Importance of patient safety research
- Contribution to quality and safety policy development on the national level

#### METHOD

Strategy development **team** 

- Multidisciplinary patient safety development group of FM-UT
- PATSAFE Project team members



council of FM-UT

First round Invited to participate n=161 Participated 58 Second round Invited to participate n=58

Consensus meeting Invited to participate (n=38)Participated 19

Participated 38

### CONCLUSIONS

- The completion and formal approval of the PS research strategy is an important milestone in the development of the PS and PS research in Estonia.
- Definition of consensus-based research priorities is an essential promotor of the further research in patient safety.
- In our best knowledge, this is a unique document in the International context as well, and therefore could be an example for development a PS research strategy for academic institutions worldwide.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

PATSAFE: Developing the University of Tartu to a wellnetworked PATient SAFEty research centre in Estonia:

Twinning partnership with Avedis Donabedian Foundation from Spain and IQ healthcare from The Netherlands

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