Patient-Safety Malpractice Claims of Elderly Patients in Connection with In and Outpatient Care and Recommended Prevention Measures
Diabetes mellitus
Polyneuropathy
Poor wound healing
High blood pressure
Coxarthrosis of the right hip

Annie needs a hip replacement! ......
 ...... at the age of 93
- Admission to a clinic that is specialized in endoprosthetics
- Surgery and anesthesia planning
- Admission on the day before surgery and planning of discharge
- Fast track surgery
- Monitoring in the recovery room including delirium prophylaxis
- Nursing care including the start of walking exercises on the 1st day after surgery
- Professional wound care and decubitus prophylaxis
- Discharge on the 7th day after surgery and admission to rehab
- Individual exercises which are appropriate to her age
- End of rehab on the 21st day after hip replacement
Prevention Measures in Road Traffic

Number of fatalities, which were caused by motor vehicles in Germany in 1970: 19,139

- No airbags
- No seat belts
- No anti-lock braking systems
- No headrests
- No air rescue
- No alcohol controls
- No first driver's licenses issued for a probationary period

Number of fatalities, which were caused by motor vehicles in Germany in 2017: 3,114
Prevention Measures in Hospitals

- Decubitus Prophylaxis
- Triage
- Review of the Diagnosis by at least 2 Medical Experts
- Medication Therapy Safety
- Management of Emergency Situations
- General Assessment of the Risk of Falling
- Delirium Prophylaxis
- Application of Checklists
- Infection Prevention
- Nutrition Management
- Early Warning Score
‘The Elderly Patients’

Claims &

Causes
27% of patients in German hospitals are above the age of 75.
Claims

Skin Injuries

- up to 75 years: 70%
- above 75 years: 30%
Claims

Fractures

- 74% above 75 years
- 26% up to 75 years
Hematomas

- 72% up to 75 years
- 28% above 75 years
Claims

Fatalities

- up to 75 years: 74%
- above 75 years: 26%
Bleedings

- 83% up to 75 years
- 17% above 75 years
Claims

Infections

- up to 75 years
- above 75 years

91% of claims are for infections up to 75 years, while 9% are for infections above 75 years.
Claims

Burns

- 89% up to 75 years
- 11% above 75 years
‘The Elderly Patients’

Causes
Patient Falls

- 53% up to 75 years
- 47% above 75 years
Incorrect Nursing Care Processes

- 44% up to 75 years
- 56% above 75 years
Insufficient Performance of Supervision Duties

Causes

- up to 75 years: 71%
- above 75 years: 29%
Inadequate Patient Positioning

- up to 75 years: 74%
- above 75 years: 26%
Wrong Therapy

- up to 75 years: 83%
- above 75 years: 17%
Hygiene Issues

- up to 75 years: 89%
- above 75 years: 11%
Most important prevention measures for elderly patients:

• **Pressure-induced ulcer prophylaxis and other care prophylaxis**

• **Fall prophylaxis**

• **Safety-focused medication therapy**

• **Patient supervision (dementia)**

• **Nutrition management**

• **Infection prevention**

• **Specific OR management**
Our Recommendations: WHAT WE NEED

- Organizational development of evidence-based PS Prevention Measures
- Patient-centered cooperation of all healthcare professions
- Guarantee of reliability in patient safety processes
- Further patient safety related trainings
- Patient safety marketing
- Patient safety as a corporate goal in healthcare organizations
What does Anni remember?
The food was too cold!
The room was not cleaned properly!
The nurse had no time for me!
For 100 years, we have been trying to develop concepts to increase life expectancy

Now we did it!

... and Society does not know how to handle it...