The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Patient Safety Information
www.sts.org/patientsafety

The History of Patient Safety

The history of patient safety is a long and well-recognized one. *Primum non-nocere* is the motto by which all physicians practice. In 1964, Schimmel first documented the risks of hospitalization. The patient safety “movement” *per se* reached a tipping point in 2000 following the publication of the IOM report of 1999, *To Err is Human*.


Erickson (1951). *A Hospital Safety Committee that Works*.
