



Improving the quality of medical and surgical care

ESSAY COMPETITION

Open to **MEDICAL STUDENTS** and **STUDENT NURSES**

The National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (NCEPOD) is committed to improving the quality of care received by patients in hospital. For twenty years NCEPOD has done this by publishing reports that have highlighted remediable factors in the care of patients and made many recommendations that could be implemented to aid this process of improvement.

We are keen to hear ideas from medical students on how the safety of patients could be improved. Original suggestions are invited from medical students on the topic of:

'Improving Patient Safety'

A prize of £1000 will be awarded for the best essay and the winner will be invited to attend a debate to be held by NCEPOD in December. Whilst the essay should be properly referenced and cite relevant evidence insofar as it is available, what we are really looking for is original practical ideas that can be applied - after appropriate research if necessary - to promote patient care and safety. In this field the simplest ideas are often the best.

The essay should be:

- no longer than 5000 words
- typed in size 12 font (Arial or Times New Roman)
- double spaced
- should state your year of study
- should state any conflict of interest with NCEPOD

Please submit all entries to ncepodprize@ncepod.org.uk by Friday 4th September 2009.