



## **The European Board of Anaesthesiology recommends a standard Cardiac Arrest call telephone number in European hospitals.**

The European Board of Anaesthesiology recommends that all European Hospitals standardise the internal telephone number used for a **Cardiac Arrest call\*** to the number **2222**.

It makes inherent logical sense that a standard Cardiac Arrest call number should be engrained in the minds of all doctors and nurses. Confusion by staff trying to summon the resuscitation team can lose precious time and put patients' lives at risk.

Since 2004 this standard number has already been successfully adopted in several European countries<sup>¶</sup> and because of the increasing of the free movement of healthcare staff around Europe it will be an extremely low cost measure to increase Patient Safety

An estimated average cost of converting to 2222 for those Hospitals using different numbers is 7,500 euros.

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\*A Cardiac Arrest call is the process used to summon help when a patient requires resuscitation after suffering a Cardiac Arrest or similar catastrophe. Most hospitals use an internal telephone number and some give it another name such as 'crash call' or 'code blue'

¶ Patient Safety Alert 02, Establishing a standard crash call telephone number in hospitals. NPSA 2004 <http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/type/alerts/?entryid45=59789&p=4>

Officially endorsed on 21 November 2015 at the UEMS Anaesthesiology Section and Board meeting in Basel, Switzerland.