Risk is the chance of an adverse outcome (patient death or untoward event). The factors determine the risk are the patient, the healthcare providers & the healthcare system. Perioperative death around 1 in 1000 & that due to anaesthesia is 1 in 10,000.

Risk assessment is dependent on an analysis of all the components within the system. Elements of analysis are identification & quantification of risk. Risk analysis is not a static process. It needs new information, treatment strategies & techniques.