

Surgical Safety Checklist



Surgical Safety Checklist:

Preoperative Phase:

- Patient's identity verified using two patient identifiers.
- Surgical site marked by the operating surgeon and confirmed by the patient.
- Consent form signed and in place, addressing the procedure and potential risks.
- Allergies, medications, and relevant medical history reviewed and confirmed.
- Imaging (e.g., X-rays, MRI) reviewed and accessible.

Before Anesthesia:

- Anesthesia machine and medications checked, including dosage calculations.
- Airway equipment and backup devices inspected and readily available.
- Patient's vital signs, including oxygen saturation, checked and documented.
- Informed consent for anesthesia obtained.

Before Skin Incision:

- Team introduces themselves by name and role (time-out).
- Procedure type, site, and any specific concerns confirmed aloud.
- Essential imaging, blood products, and special equipment discussed.
- Any potential complications discussed with the team.

During Surgery:

- Sterility confirmed; all team members adhere to aseptic techniques.
- Anesthesia monitoring and patient positioning reviewed.
- Ongoing communication and updates on the procedure's progress maintained.
- Confirmation of critical steps (e.g., vessel ligation, implant placement) audibly verified.
- Blood loss monitored and documented throughout the procedure.
- Intraoperative imaging reviewed as necessary.

Before Patient Leaves Operating Room:

- All equipment and materials used accounted for.
- Surgical team confirms the intended procedure was completed as planned.
- Any equipment implanted is verified and documented accurately.
- Specimens for pathology labeled and documented appropriately.

Postoperative Phase:

- Patient's condition and vitals assessed in the recovery area.
- Relevant postoperative orders given, including medications and follow-up instructions.
- Appropriate documentation completed, detailing the procedure, findings, and interventions.
- Handoff communication provided to postoperative care team.

Debriefing:

- Team debriefs to discuss any issues, complications, or lessons learned.
- Documentation of debriefing discussions and identified improvements.