

# THE SURGICAL PATIENT SAFETY CHECKLIST (SPSC)

For the SPSC to be initiated, Nursing, the Consulting Surgeon or delegate and the Consulting Anesthesiologist or delegate must be present. The Physician performing the SPSC must be familiar with the patient.

## Briefing

## Time Out

## Debriefing

### Before Induction of Anesthesia

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Confirm that all perioperative team members have been identified by name and role.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Patient (legal guardian) confirms his/her identity, surgical site, surgical procedure and consent.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-op anesthesia questionnaire reviewed including NPO status.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Surgical site marked by surgeon, where applicable.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Equipment sterility confirmed.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any Anesthesia concerns?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any other concerns?</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Allergies identified and discussed.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Risk of &gt;500ml blood loss (7 ml/kg in children) identified.*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Antibiotic prophylaxis infused/completed within last <u>60</u> minutes and documented electronically</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All other preoperative medications have been given and documented electronically</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> DVT prophylaxis-anticoagulant/mechanical.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Essential imaging displayed.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Relevant tests completed and checked. Examples include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pregnancy;</li> <li>• Crossmatch (Type &amp; Screen).</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Service-specific positioning, support and equipment needs established</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any implants or devices are received and readily available.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Who and where is the patient's contact person.</li> </ul> |
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### Before Skin Incision

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carry out a Surgical Pause:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient's name.</li> <li>• Planned surgical procedure.</li> <li>• Surgical site.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Communicate anticipated critical events.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any other questions or concerns before proceeding?</li> </ul> |
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### Before Patient Leaves OR

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| <p>Perioperative team verbally confirms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The name of the procedure, sponge, needle and instrument counts.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> That labelled specimens are read aloud, including patient's name.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> That any implants or devices used or inserted are correct and compatible.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> That equipment problems have been addressed.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Unanticipated events.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All preoperative medications have been given and documented electronically</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Post-operative plan:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient specific concerns;</li> <li>• Patient disposition;</li> <li>• Analgesia;</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Who and where is the patient's contact person.</li> </ul> |
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\* *EXCEPTION TO ABOVE: Under extenuating circumstances (e.g. 'A' cases); the patient may be brought to the OR for optimization & stabilization prior to surgeon arrival & briefing. The most responsible physician in the room with nursing will initiate the briefing.*