

Surgical Safety Checklist

By John F. Smith

- Before Induction of Anaesthesia
 - Has the patient confirmed his/her identity, site, procedure, and consent?
 - Is the surgical site marked?
 - Is the anaesthesia machine and medication check complete?
 - Is the pulse oximeter on the patient and functioning?
 - Does the patient have a known allergy?
 - Does the patient have difficult airway or aspiration risk?
 - Does the patient have Risk of >500ml blood loss (7ml/kg in children)?
- Before Skin Incision
 - Confirm all team members have introduced themselves by name and role.
 - Confirm the patient's name, procedure, and where the incision will be made.
 - Has antibiotic prophylaxis been given within the last 60 minutes?
 - What are the critical or non-routine steps?
 - How long will the case take?
 - What is the anticipated blood loss?
 - Are there any patient-specific concerns?
 - Has sterility (including indicator results) been confirmed?
 - Are there equipment issues or any concerns?
 - Is essential imaging displayed?
- Before Patient Leaves Operating Room
 - Confirm the name of the procedure.
 - Confirm completion of instrument, sponge and needle counts.
 - Confirm specimen labelling (read specimen labels aloud, including patient name).
 - Confirm whether there are any equipment problems to be addressed.
 - What are the key concerns for recovery and management of this patient?