

Project SAVED - Surgical checklist and improving the experiences of Doctors in training

A step-by-step guide for Junior Doctors supporting Patient Safety First by using the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist on one new operating list on one day during Patient Safety First week, 21- 27 September 2009

THE PREPARATION

WHEN?

- Anytime between now and Patient Safety First week, 21-27 September 2009
- Ideally do this at least one week beforehand

TASKS

1. Go to www.patientsafetyfirst.nhs.uk and read about Patient Safety First week.

ESTIMATED TIME – 10 mins

2. Read the 'Rationale document' for using the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist and understand the theory behind briefing and debriefing the Checklist. Also, take a look at the Alert that the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) issued: www.npsa.nhs.uk/checklist

ESTIMATED TIME – 10 mins

3. Watch the videos on 'how-to' and 'how-NOT-to' use the checklist: Click links.

[How to use the Surgical Safety Checklist video](#)

[How NOT to use the Surgical Safety Checklist video](#)

ESTIMATED TIME – 10 mins

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- [Watch James Reason Lecture](#)
- Read Better / Complications by Atul Gawande
- [Read online Chapter 4 of the Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report 2007](#)

THE ACTION

WHEN?

- Start 1-2 weeks before Patient Safety First week begins

TASKS

1. Now you are armed with knowledge and the energy to gain agreement from your chosen consultant to use the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist during a specified list.

TOP TIP – Try to book a 5-10 min slot with your consultant rather than a casual conversation in the corridor. Take the Checklist and ‘Background’ document with you and decide on the date / time of the list during this session and get the chosen date in the diary!

2. Speak to all members of the theatre team who will be in theatre during the session you have agreed upon with your consultant and brief them about what will happen and the benefits of participating. A nurse or ODP who is a member of AfPP (Association for Perioperative Practice) or CODP (College of Operating Department Practitioners) may also be able to help. Decide as a team who is best placed to co-ordinate the Checklist and make sure this person is happy to do so.

TOP TIP – Ask permission to stick the Checklist around theatres in the run up to Patient Safety First week to generate interest and discussion. Discuss any further event awareness strategies with colleagues. If possible send a reminder to all those participating in your trial the day before.

3. The Big Day! Go in early to make sure everyone is aware of what they will be doing.
4. After the debriefing, thank everyone involved.
5. Complete the online feedback at www.patientsafetyfirst.nhs.uk under Patient Safety First week / Periop Care THIS IS VERY QUICK AND PAIN FREE! Added bonus – claim your Certificate which should be emailed to you within a week. This will be a useful addition to your learning portfolio.

NEXT STEPS

1. Plan a suitable time when you can talk as a team about how the day went
2. Go to the Patient Safety First website in two weeks to see the overall results of the feedback forms for Project SAVED.

Thank you. Your support is very valuable to putting patient safety first.