

What is the Surgical Safety Checklist?

The Surgical Safety Checklist is a tool designed to help ensure patient safety in the Operating Room. Like a pilot in the cockpit prior to takeoff, this checklist provides the surgical team an opportunity to conduct a final review of important information to ensure your safety, comfort, and well-being prior to the start of the surgery.

What to Expect

Prior to surgery, a number of team members will visit you. These will likely include the admitting nurse, the anesthesiologist, the surgeon, and an operating room nurse. You will be **repeatedly** asked a number of questions relating to your surgery. This will include asking for your name, what procedure you are having done, the location of the surgery (i.e. right or left side) as well as other important medical information such as allergies, previous anesthetics, etc. The surgeon may also place his/her initials near the operative site.

Once you are brought into the operating room, the surgical team will introduce themselves to you and **once again** (using the Surgical Safety Checklist as a guide) ask you many of the same questions. This is done as a last and final check to ensure your safety as well as to ensure that all the necessary supplies and equipment have been prepared and are ready for use.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to ask the surgical team.

For more information
please contact your local
Pre-Surgical Screening Clinic
or your surgeon at:



Interior Health

The Surgical Safety Checklist

Patient Information

Surgical Checklist



Before induction of anesthesia

- **Confirm Team Identity and Role**
- **Patient and Team have confirmed**
 - Identity
 - Site Laterality
 - Procedure
 - Consent
 - Allergies
- **Site Marked**
- **Monitoring Equipment**
- **Equipment/Supplies/Implants**
- **Essential Imaging Displayed**
- **Blood Products As Ordered**
- **VTE Prophylaxis**
- **Prophylactic Antibiotic Ordered**

Time Out after draping before incision

- **Surgeon, Anesthesia and Nurse Confirm**
 - Patient
 - Site/Laterality/Level
 - Procedure
 - Antibiotic Prophylaxis
- **Concerns**
 - Surgical
 - Anesthesia
 - Nursing

Before patient leaves operating room

- **Nurse Verbally Confirms With the Team**
- **Confirmation of Surgical Procedure Performed**
- **Counts Correct**
- **Specimen Labeled and Recorded Correctly**
- **Equipment Problems to be Addressed**
- **What could we do differently next time**
- **Changes to Post Op Destination**