## Surgical Safety Checklist

**Briefing**

Before induction of anesthesia

**SURGEON INITIATES BRIEFING**

- Nurse verifies:
  - The patient was seen and site marked by the surgeon or designate and the patient has confirmed his/her identity, site, procedure and consent

- Surgeon or Designate confirms with nurses:
  - Are all necessary equipment and implants available and sterile?
  - Positioning confirmed if necessary?
  - Is essential imaging displayed?

**Anesthesiologist verifies:**

- Does the patient have a known allergy?
- Lab data reviewed, group and screen done?
- Anesthesia equipment available and checked?
- Are there any patient specific concerns?

**Does anyone have any questions?**

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**Surgical Pause/Time Out**

Before skin incision

**Surgeon verifies:**

- All team members have introduced themselves by name and role.
- The patient's name, procedure, and the site and side marking of the incision.

Has Antibiotic Prophylaxis been given within the last 60 minutes?

- Yes
- Not applicable

Has VTE / DVT Prophylaxis been provided?

- Yes
- Not applicable

**Anticipated Critical Events**

- Are there any critical surgical or unexpected steps that the team should know about?
- How long will the case take, and what is the anticipated blood loss?

**Does anyone have any questions?**

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**Debriefing**

Before patient leaves the OR

**Nurse verifies**

- What is the name of the procedure to be recorded?
- Are all counts complete?
- Is specimen labeling accurate? (read specimen labels aloud, including patient name)
- Do any equipment problems need to be addressed?

**To Surgeon, Anesthesiologist, and Nurse(s):**

- What are the key concerns for recovery and management of this patient?
- What is the post-operative destination?
- Who will be responsible for post operative analgesic orders?

**Does anyone have any questions?**

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Adapted from the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist, © World Health Organization, 2008