



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Submitting author: Mr Y H WONG

Post title: Ward Manager, United Christian Hospital, KEC

Enhancing Perioperative Patient Safety on prevention of retained swabs and instrument by modernizing accountable items count checking and recording system

Wong YH(1), Ma HK(1), Chan HC(1), Cheung CK(1), Wong MN(1), Leung TF(1), Poon SY(1), Kwok AC(1), Yuen SY(1)

(1) Operating Room, United Christian Hospital

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Introduction

Accountable items are those, but are not limited to absorbent items, sharps, surgical instruments and any others that have the risk of being retained during operation. Those items are required to be counted throughout the operation and document according to the Guidelines for Specialty Nursing Services – Perioperative Care, HAHO 2010. Instant record of accountable items on whiteboard during operation and document the final outcome of accountable items count at the end of operation are the conventional nursing practices which could not provide evidence on demonstration of the whole entire process of accountable items counting during operation. Perioperative patient safety would be challenged as consequence when comparing with the international standards.

Objectives

Objectives 1.To modernize the accountable items count checking and recording system 2.To benchmark the counting process of the accountable items against international standards

Methodology

Result

Results 1.A3 size of perioperative accountable items count sheet was designed 2.Over 200 cases had been documented in the count sheet within 2 weeks as pilot with satisfactory and positive feedback from frontline nurses 3.Tracking record of entire counting process could be demonstrated on the count sheet 4.Final outcome of the accountable items count at the end of operation could be facilitated 5.All theatre nurses are complied to record the entire counting process in both elective and emergency operations and the documents were kept in patient medical record. 6.Prevention of retained swabs and instrument in patient could be warranted.