Partial Counting

The innovative strategy to prevent Retained Surgical Items (RSI) in Laparoscopic Surgery

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HA Convention 2014- SPP6.1
Counting items

Absorbent Items

Sharps

Instruments

Items that risky to be retained
Surgical Counting

- Initial Count
- Additional Count
- +/- Relief Count
- First Count
- Final Count
Correct Count

Can we Count in Laparoscopic surgery?
Current Trend

- Laparoscopic & Endoscopic procedure >70% of surgery
- High volume
- Surgeon skills familiarity

Faster procedure

Perform count for all accountable items throughout the operative procedure(s)?
Sentinel Events

Category 1
Wrong Site Surgery

Category 2
Retained Surgical Items (RSIs)

Category 3

Category 4

Category 5

Category 6

Category 7

Category 8

Category 9
HA Sentinel Events

RSIs in order Departments
RSIs in Operating Theatre (32 cases)
Types of Risks

Types of RSIs

- Tiny dislodged fragment: 63%
- Raytec gauze & Abdominal pad: 26%
- Malleable retractors: 11%
Grasping forceps were left in the abdomen of a patient.

**LEARNING POINT**

Thorough checking of the **INTEGRITY** of the instruments before the end of operation.
Causative Factors for RSIs

- Instrument
- Work environment
- Staff
- Method/ Process
- Patient
- Organization
- Communication

RSIs Lap Surgery
Literature justification


• Exceptions have been made based on the size of the instrument in relation to the wound

• There may be instances in which laparoscopic instrument counts may be waived
Strategies for the prevention of RSI
The 4 P’s

1. Practical utilization of laparoscopic instruments
2. Partition of Used & Unused laparoscopic instruments
3. Partial count
4. Pause for surgical counting
Partial Count

Laparoscopic instruments: Count for used and visual inspection for completeness
Partial Count

Phase 1 (n=14)

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<td>No. of operation</td>
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<td>Mean time of closing count (min)</td>
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Phase 2 (n=98)

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- Blue line: No. of operation
- Orange line: Mean time of closing count (min)
Evaluation

- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Communication
- Safety
Implication

- Enhance communication
- Facilitate collaboration

-> Patient Safety
Moving forward

- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- Guideline for all laparoscopic procedures
- Guidelines for Specialty Nursing Services (Perioperative Care)
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