



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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**Submitting author:** Miss Ka Lai SO

**Post title:** Registered Nurse, Queen Mary Hospital

### **Enhancement Project on Improving Accuracy of Documentation of Counts in Paediatric Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory**

*SO KL, CHENG SM, AU WK, TSUI PCB*

*Paediatric Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Department of Paediatric Cardiology, Queen Mary Hospital*

#### **Keywords:**

Risk management

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#### **Introduction**

Instrument and swab retention is one of the major risks in invasive operations or procedures. According to the feedback from Organisation Wide Survey of the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards conducted by Queen Mary Hospital (QMH) in 2014, documentation of counts in Paediatric Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (PCCL) in Department of Paediatric Cardiology QMH was suggested to be improved. Therefore, an enhancement project was conducted in PCCL to review and improve the current practice on documentation of counts.

#### **Objectives**

1. To develop proper counting documentation in line with the international best practice
2. To reinforce the importance of accurate documentation of counting instruments and swabs in PCCL

#### **Methodology**

The project was implemented in PCCL between 2015 and 2016. Staff compliance rate of improvement measures was assessed by a Quality and Safety Team annually to evaluate the project.

In the project, paper documentation was adopted to replace the current practice. A new documentation tool - Gauze and Sharps Counting Record was developed and used since February 2015 in PCCL by taking reference from other operation theatres' surgical count sheets. Count sheets would be kept in patient records after catheterization. PCCL nurses were briefed the use of new count sheets to reinforce the accuracy of documentation of counts.

**Result**

The implementation of and utilisation of the new documentation tool were satisfactory. All PCCL nurses understood the use of the new documentation tool before the implementation. According to the annual audit run by the Quality and Safety Team, the compliance rate of using the new documentation tool was both 100% in 2015 and 2016.