Implant Register for Surgical Patients

Leung ML(1)(2), Fung SH(1)(2), Wong LY(1)
(1)Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, (2)Operating Theatre, Queen Mary Hospital

Keywords:
implants
surgery
safety
record

Introduction
The awareness of instrument tracking has been raised for some years and surgical instrument tracking system becomes universal throughout operating theatres in Hong Kong. However, there is less concern of the record of used sutures and/or implants, which is as crucial as instruments, as sutures and/or implants stays inside patients’ body cavity for a certain period of time.

Objectives
(1) To develop a system to record all sutures and consumables implanted for every patient;
(2) To generate a database for multipurpose, such as for trace back if there is a need to recall of products, for research, for investigation and so on.

Methodology
A consumables list was collected and made. With the use of Excel software, lot number of: sutures, patches, implants such as valves, ring, stent and grafts; stapler, surgical adhesive and clips are categorized and recorded starting from April 2015. Date and hospital number were entered as patients’ identifier. Barcode/ 2D barcode scanner was used to increase the accuracy of data entry.

Result
Until January 2017, there are 13295 entries in 2015, 34332 entries in 2016 and around 1500 entries for 2017. 100% of patients’ consumables used were recorded. There were no data entry missing. None of the products stated above need to be recalled. At the meantime, the surgical site infection rate remains low (0 to 1.2 per 1000 operations). For testing the ability to track back specified products, 100% of records can be found. To conclude, this database serves as a tool to trace used
consumables to individual patient and episode. It can also be a risk management strategy in a sense that changes of products in relation to patients’™ outcome can be observed.