

## SFHPCS14

# Prepare surgical instrumentation and supplementary items for the surgical team



### Overview

This standard covers the preparation of surgical instrumentation and supplementary items for the surgical team. This includes the preparation of the sterile trolley, surgical instruments and supplementary equipment. You will be working in a `scrubbed' role whilst undertaking these activities. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control and other relevant health and safety measures
- P2 prepare and maintain sterile instrumentation and supplementary items in a designated preparation area to ensure asepsis
- P3 select and prepare the correct surgical instrumentation and supplementary items according to the clinical specialty, the anticipated requirements of the operative procedure, and the patient's individual needs
- P4 check date controlled items and confirm them as being within their expiry date
- P5 safely handle, move and check surgical instrumentation and supplementary items in line with manufacturer's instructions, confirming them as safe and functioning correctly before preparing them ready for use
- P6 take the appropriate action to remedy or report any faults where you find surgical instrumentation and supplementary items are faulty or unsafe during preparation
- P7 correctly set up surgical equipment in line with manufacturer's instructions, and to meet the needs of the operative procedure and the patients' plans of care
- P8 count and record instruments, needles, swabs and supplementary items in conjunction with a registered practitioner as the second authorised checker prior to commencing the case, in line with organisational policies and protocols
- P9 prepare the surgical trolley, positioning surgical instrumentation and supplementary items in a way which facilitates their access and use, according to the anticipated sequence of the operative procedure

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with Clinical/Corporate Governance which affect your work practice in relation to preparing surgical instrumentation and supplementary items for the surgical team
- K2 your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols and Clinical/Corporate Governance
- K3 the duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to yourself, other individuals or your employer
- K4 the role of regulatory bodies in relation to medical and healthcare products and regulations relating to medical devices
- K5 the application of standard precautions to the preparation of medical devices and surgical instruments and the potential consequences of poor practice
- K6 the difference between scrubbed and circulating roles
- K7 the importance of working within your own sphere of competence and seeking advice when faced with situations outside your sphere of competence
- K8 the principles of asepsis in relation to the preparation of surgical instruments and supplementary items
- K9 the potential hazards associated with surgical instruments and supplementary items and how they can be avoided or minimised
- K10 the types, purpose and function of surgical instruments and supplementary items in common use in the clinical specialties relevant to your practice
- K11 the requirements for, and suitability of, surgical instruments and supplementary items for the clinical specialties relevant to your practice
- K12 the factors to consider in selecting surgical instruments and supplementary items for individual patients
- K13 the importance of adhering to manufacturers' instructions regarding the preparation of surgical instruments and supplementary items for surgery
- K14 the importance of checking and confirming that surgical instruments and supplementary items are in a suitable condition prior to use
- K15 procedures for identifying and reporting problems in surgical instruments and supplementary items
- K16 the action to take if problems are identified with surgical instruments and supplementary items which have been requested
- K17 the types of procedure carried out in the clinical specialties relevant to your practice
- K18 the surgical instruments and supplementary items required by the

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- surgical team for common procedures carried out in the clinical specialties relevant to your practice
- K19 procedure(s) to be carried out if any item is identified as missing during preparation
  - K20 the importance of following procedures for the tracking and traceability of surgical materials and instruments during preparation
  - K21 the potential hazards associated with the preparation of surgical instruments and supplementary items and how they can be avoided or minimised
  - K22 the potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the preparation of surgical instruments and supplementary items
  - K23 the importance of checking and confirming that surgical instruments and supplementary items are in a suitable condition prior to use
  - K24 the criteria and methods for checking the sterility of surgical instruments and supplementary items to be used
  - K25 ways in which the sterile field can be compromised by those working outside it, and how this can be avoided
  - K26 the specific lines of accountability within the surgical team
  - K27 where and how to record information on the number and location of surgical instruments and supplementary items for used in clinical procedures
  - K28 the importance of recording all information clearly and precisely in the correct documentation
  - K29 the importance of reporting all information to the registered practitioner
  - K30 the procedures for reporting adverse incidents and equipment failure
  - K31 the importance of immediately reporting any issues which are outside your own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff

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### Additional Information

#### External links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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**Relevant occupations** Health, Public Services and Care; Health and Social Care; Managers and Senior Officials; Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations; Health and Social Services Officers; Health Associate Professionals; Personal Service Occupations; Healthcare and Related Personal Services

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**Suite** Perioperative Care Support

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**Key words** Perioperative care, surgical team, scrubbed role, surgical instruments, sterile field.

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