

5. Patient Safety in the Operative Settings

The RN has overall accountability for assuring patient safety in the OR. “Time-out” is announced after the patient is placed under general anesthesia and prior to any incision. It is expected that everyone pause and become attentive as the patient’s name, type of procedure to be performed, and operative side is verified. In the case of a surgery requiring more than one incision by different individuals, a “Time-out” is called before each incision.

These measures ensuring patient safety do not replace the usual measures performed prior to any procedure including: writing the patient’s name and procedure on the white board in the operating room, checking the medical record for pertinent laboratory tests, validating the patient’s history and physical and verifying the appropriate signed consent form.

Regency Day Surgery - All staff attends 10 minute safety briefings at 2 p.m. daily. The interview nurse presents to the staff a review of patients and their surgeries for the next day. This process includes a review of the patient’s medical history, allergies, medicines, similar or same names and any special instrumentation or supplies needed. Information missing on the chart i.e. orders, labs, history and physical, medical clearance or unusual requirements is also noted. This discussion informs all staff of potential issues or problems with patients, anesthesia, staffing needs or patient flow.



AS&DC Staff



Regency Day Surgery Staff