

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
Preoperative Briefing Guide for Use in the Operating Room

✓ Read and Verify Checklist, Local Facilities Decide When Checklist Completed.

- Patient Name¹⁻⁴
- Social Security #, Birthdate, or Other VA-Approved Identifier¹
- Names & Roles of Team Members²
- Procedure¹⁻⁴
- Surgical Site¹⁻⁴
 - Marked or on Wristband
- Laterality/Side¹⁻⁴
- Known Allergy²
 - No
 - Yes
- Anesthesia²
 - Difficult Airway, Aspiration Risk?
 - No
 - Yes
 - If Yes, Equipment & Assistance Available
 - Safety Check Completed
 - Pulse Oximetry
- Instruments & Special Equipment²⁻⁴
 - N/A
 - Yes
- Implant (s)^{1,4}
 - N/A
 - Yes
 - If Yes, Specifics

- Pertinent Lab Results
- Risk of >500 ml Blood Loss^{2,4}
 - No
 - Yes, and adequate IV access and fluids planned, and blood availability confirmed
- If Yes,
 - Type & Screen

OR

 - Type & Cross
- Prophylactic Antibiotics Given Within 60 Minutes of Incision²⁻⁴
 - Yes
 - N/A
- DVT Prophylaxis⁴
 - Yes
 - N/A
- Anticipated Critical Events²
 - Surgeon
 - Anesthesia
 - Nursing
- Postop Disposition & Bed Availability⁴



TIME OUT!

- Name of Patient & SS# or birthdate
- Procedure to be performed
- Position
- Consent form checked (patient, procedure, site/side, reason)
- Check that surgical site marked (and visible after draping) and/or wristband confirmed
- Implant to be used (if applicable)
- Two members confirm imaging studies available, correct, properly labeled, presented
 - Yes
 - N/A

*This checklist contains the elements of the WHO checklist and also includes a sampling of the majority of elements as suggested by frontline OR teams from the VHA. The WHO Surgical Safety Checklist is available at http://www.safesurg.org/uploads/1/0/9/0/1090835/ssl_checklist_finaljun08.pdf

¹VHA Policy/Directive, ²WHO Checklist, ³Joint Commission, ⁴Medical Team Training