

# 12 Surgical nursing



## Operating Room Preparation and Surgical Procedures

Surgical nurse shifts begin approximately one hour before the first scheduled **surgical procedure**. Please see that the **operating room** is fully prepared fifteen minutes prior to use.

When it is ready, notify Dr. Jenkins, Operating Room **Coordinator**. Always follow these steps to ensure the safety and health of both patients and staff.

1. With the assistance of cleaning staff, ensure that the room is sterile.
2. Gather and sterilize all surgical tools, including **scissors**, **forceps**, **retractors**, and **scalpels**.
3. Set up sterile table with tools, **sponges**, towels, and medications.
4. Stock the **scrub room** with **bactericidal** soap, gowns, gloves, hairnets, masks, and shoe covers.
5. Assist the surgeons in scrubbing and gowning.
6. Pass tools to the surgeons during operations.

After each procedure, transport the patient to the **post-operative unit**. Then work with the cleaning staff to clean and **sanitize** the operating room and all equipment.

## Get ready!

Drag and drop the words to their places

sponge      scrub room  
scissors      operating room      scalpel  
surgical procedure      retractor

## Reading

Read the following posting in a Department of Surgery. Then, mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1  Operating rooms must be sanitized an hour before a surgical procedure.
- 2  Non-medical staff members participate in sterilizing operating rooms.
- 3  Nurses are not allowed in operating room during surgical procedures.

## Vocabulary

Match the words (1-8) with the definitions (A-H).

1 <input type="checkbox"/> operating room	5 <input type="checkbox"/> forceps
2 <input type="checkbox"/> bactericidal	6 <input type="checkbox"/> scrub room
3 <input type="checkbox"/> coordinator	7 <input type="checkbox"/> scalpel
4 <input type="checkbox"/> post-operative unit	8 <input type="checkbox"/> retractor

A	a room where surgery is performed
B	an instrument used to hold an incision open
C	a room where doctors sanitize themselves
D	a tool used to grasp small objects
E	an instrument used to cut into a patient
F	a person who is in charge of a system
G	a room where patients heal after surgery
H	capable of killing microorganisms

Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

- 1 Be sure to clean all of the equipment that will be used in the surgery.
- 2 The doctor needs an absorbent material to wipe away some blood.
- 3 During a procedure in which doctors cut into a living body, patients are often unconscious.
- 4 Those connected, metal blades are very sharp, so be careful when using them.

## Listening

Listen to a conversation between a nurse and a doctor. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 What is the conversation mostly about?
  - A changing the time of a surgical procedure
  - B locating a room for a surgical procedure
  - C selecting tools for a surgical procedure
  - D sterilizing instruments for a surgical procedure
- 2 What can you infer from the conversation?
  - A Operating room two is sterile.
  - B The doctor will cancel the procedure.
  - C The nurse cleaned operating room four.
  - D Only two patients are scheduled for surgery.

Listen again and complete the conversation.

Nurse: Excuse me, Dr. Jenkins? Do you have a moment?

Doctor: Of course. How can I help?

Nurse: Well, we have a 1 \_\_\_\_\_ scheduled in operating room four at noon. That's ten minutes from now.

Doctor: Correct. Is there a problem?

Nurse: Unfortunately, yes. I don't think anyone 2 \_\_\_\_\_ the room after the operation this morning.

Doctor: We can't perform a surgical procedure in an unclean room, it's unsafe. Are you sure?

Nurse: I am. The instruments from the last 3 \_\_\_\_\_ are still in there.

Doctor: So there are used 4 \_\_\_\_\_ and scissors still in the room?

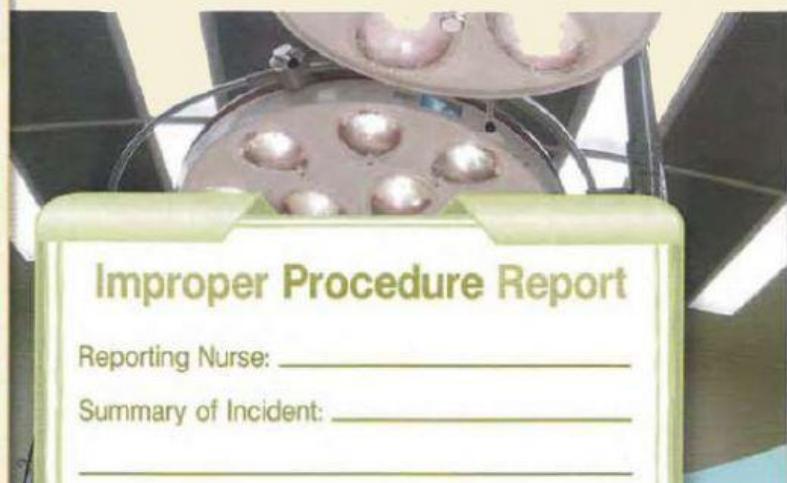
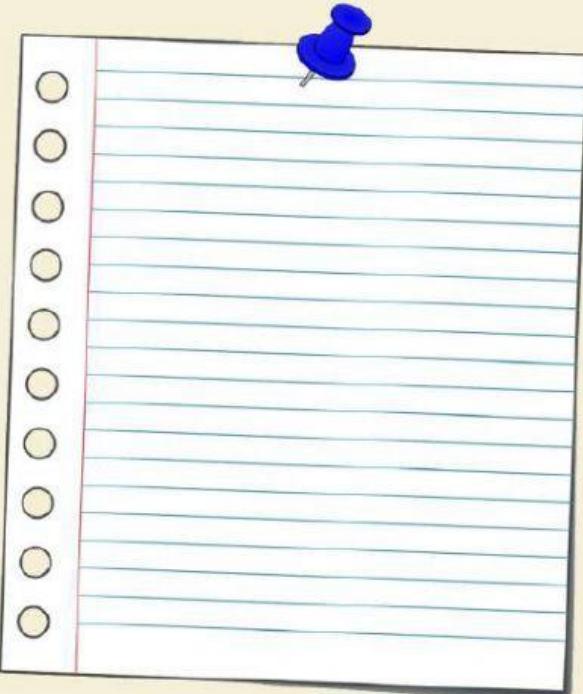
Nurse: Exactly. There must have been a miscommunication between the nursing and cleaning staff.

Doctor: Okay. 5 \_\_\_\_\_ we'll do. Operating room two hasn't been used all day. We'll do the surgery there.

Nurse: Great. I'll bring in a sterile set of tools.

Doctor: Thanks. After that, 6 \_\_\_\_\_ room four.

Listen and read the posting again. What should happen after each surgery?



### Improper Procedure Report

Reporting Nurse: \_\_\_\_\_

Summary of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_

How Incident was Resolved: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe similar incidents can be avoided? If so, how? \_\_\_\_\_