TOP 10 TIPS for SURGICAL SAFETY

'Think Safety, think SEIPS'

Safety Engineering Initiative for Patient Safety

Carayon P et al. Work system design for patient safety: the SEIPS model. Qual. Saf. Heal. Care. 2006;15(Supplement 1):i50-i58.

Tasks

TIP 3 'Work within skill set'.
Ensure we embark on lifelong learning with practical training and upskilling with up-to-date surgical techniques.
https://www.rcsed.ac.uk/career-hub/members-and-fellows/lifelong-learning-continuing-professional-development-cpd

Tools/Technology

TIP 4 'Use a surgical safety check list'.
Between 2007/8 surgical checklists were found to reduce the rate of deaths and surgical complications in England by more than one-third across all eight pilot hospitals. The rate of major inpatient complications dropped from 11% to 7%, and the inpatient death rate following major operations fell from 1.5% to 0.8%.
https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/01/surgical-safety-checklist/
Embed the organisational and sequential standards of the National Patient Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures.
https://cpoc.org.uk/guidelines-and-resources/guidelines/national-safety-standards-invasive-procedures-natssips

Person

TIP 1 'Put patients at the heart of care'.
Empower patients to speak up about their own safety.
https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/framework-for-involving-patients-in-patient-safety/
Be aware of equity and how this impacts on safety for more vulnerable patients.
https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/patient-safety-involvement/framework-for-involving-patients-in-patient-safety/simple-steps-to-keep-you-safe-during-your-hospital-stay-webpage-for-patients/
TIP 2 'Prioritise team well-being'.
As a surgeon and leader in healthcare don't underestimate the importance of well-being of your teams and the impact this has on patients.
Hall LH et al. Healthcare Staff Wellbeing, Burnout, and Patient Safety: A Systematic Review. PLoS One. 2016 Jul 8;11(7):e0159015. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0159015. PMID: 27391946; PMCID: PMC4938539.
Communicate with all and lead compassionately - your patients will be safer.
https://www.england.nhs.uk/culture/what-does-compassionate-and-inclusive-leadership-mean-to-us/

External Influences

TIP 9 'Be aware of external surgical guidance'.
For example NICE, WHO, Specialty Associations. https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ https://www.who.int/publications/who-guidelines

Organisation

TIP 5 'Never underestimate the importance of Civility'.
Civility Saves Lives
https://www.civilitysaveslives.com/
TIP 6 'Ensure there is a Just Restorative Culture'.
Who is hurt?
What do they need?
Whose responsibility is it to meet that need?
Dekker S. Restorative Just Culture Checklist, 2017. https://sidneydekker.com/papers/
https://services.rcsed.ac.uk/events-courses/true-cut-making-sense-of-mistakes#:~:text=The%20True%20Cut%20workshop%20aims,the%20aftermath%20of%20an%20error.
TIP 7 'Learn from mistakes and strive for improvement'.
Compassionately engage using a systems approach with proportionate high-quality investigations and supportive oversight.
https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/patient-safety-insight/incident-response-framework/
https://services.rcsed.ac.uk/events-courses/teams-based-quality-review-for-surgical-practice-tbqr
TIP8 'Think human factors and team training'.
https://www.rcsed.ac.uk/career-hub/learning-resources/non-technical-skills-for-surgeons#:~:text=The%20NOTSS%20Masterclass%20is%20a,enhancing%20individual%20and%20team%20performance.

Internal Environment

TIP 10 'Factor ergonomics into the surgical environment.'
This might include theatre layout, light, temperature.
https://ergonomics.org.uk/