



HEALTH HOLDING

HAFER ALBATUN HEALTH  
CLUSTER  
MATERNITY AND  
CHILDREN HOSPITAL

<b>Department:</b>	Operating Room		
<b>Document:</b>	Internal Policy and Procedure		
<b>Title:</b>	Discrepancy in Surgical Counts		
<b>Applies To:</b>	All Surgeon and Operating Room Nurse		
<b>Preparation Date:</b>	January 05, 2025	<b>Index No:</b>	OR-IPP-009
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## 1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To systematically and thoroughly search for the items sponge and sharps or instrument in an operation.
- 1.2 To prevent any retain of foreign body in any part of patient's body cavity that may cause physical injury, wound infection or disruption of wound healing.

## 2. DEFINITIONS:

- 2.1 **Discrepancy in Surgical Counts** – lacking of instruments, sponges and sharp items during procedure.

## 3. POLICY:

- 3.1 All surgical scrub team should abide to surgical count policy strictly.
- 3.2 Scrub nurse and circulating nurse will inform surgeon immediately for any discrepancy in surgical count.
- 3.3 Surgeon must acknowledge circulating nurse for surgical count.
- 3.4 Hospital administration personnel must be informed and incident report must be written for any discrepancy in surgical counts.

## 4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 Inform surgeon immediately once a surgical count is incorrect.
- 4.2 Repeat entire count immediately.
- 4.3 Search for the missing items:
  - 4.3.1 Circulating nurse look into the kick bucket, trash receptacles, floor, linen hamper, underneath all operating personnel shoe and entire operating room.
  - 4.5.2 Scrub nurse look on mayo tray, scrub nurse trolley/ instrument trolley and over the drapes.
  - 4.5.3 Surgeon looks into the operative field and in the wound.
- 4.4 Notify Operating room Head nurse right away.
- 4.5 Order for X – ray to be taken if missing item is not found.
- 4.6 Write incident report regardless of items found or not found. If found write where the item is located and how has it been found.
- 4.7 Document in the surgical count sheet of the incorrect count.

## 5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

- 5.1 Swabs, Sharps
- 5.2 Surgical Instrument

## 6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 6.1 Nurse
- 6.2 Surgeon






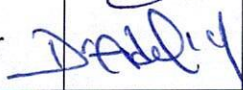

## 7. APPENDICES:

N/A

## 8. REFERENCES:

- 8.1 Seymour Schwartz (2015) Principles of Surgery, 10th Edition, Mc Graw-Hill Professional.

## 9. APPROVALS:

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