

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES**  
**HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION BRANCH, GROUND FLOOR**  
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Memo no - HFW-35099/193/2018/ 77

Date - 06 . 03 . 2019

**ORDER**


In order to ensure safety of a patient undergoing any surgical operation, it has been decided that the *WHO Surgical Safety Checklist* should be implemented with immediate effect in all Medical Colleges and Hospitals, Teaching Institutions, Dental Colleges and Hospitals, District Hospitals, Sub Divisional Hospitals, State General Hospitals, Decentralised Hospitals, Rural Hospitals, BPHCs, PHCs where surgeries are performed.


The *WHO Surgical Safety Checklist* is a simple tool designed to improve the safety of surgical procedures by bringing together the whole operating team (surgeons, anaesthesia providers and nurses) to perform key safety checks during vital phases of peri-operative care: prior to the induction of anaesthesia, prior to skin incision and before the team leaves the operating room.

The Checklist helps to ensure that important safety steps are reliably followed for each and every operation and may serve as an important document if legal consequence arises.

MSVPs/Superintendents are hereby directed to arrange for printing the *WHO Surgical Safety Checklist*. Nursing staff must tag it with all Bed Head Ticket (BHT)s of patients admitted for surgery, and the checklist is to be filled up for each surgery performed.

This order will take with immediate effect.

  
**Director of Health Services**  
**Govt. of West Bengal**

  
**Director of Medical Education**  
**Govt. of West Bengal**

Enclosure 1 – WHO Surgical Safety Checklist (First Edition).

**Memo no - HFW-35099/193/2018/ 77/1(24)**

**Date - 06.03.2019**

Copy forwarded for kind information & necessary action to:-

1. MD NHM,
2. AMD NHM, West Bengal
3. Director IPGMER
4. Principal, all Medical Colleges, West Bengal,
5. Principal, all Dental Colleges, West Bengal
6. Principal, all Teaching Institutions
7. MSVP- all Medical Colleges, West Bengal
8. MSVP- all Dental Colleges, West Bengal
9. MSVP- all Teaching Institutions, West Bengal
10. Jt DHS HA
11. Jt DHS FW & SFWO
12. Jt. DHS (Nursing), West Bengal,
13. DDHS (Admin), West Bengal,
14. DDHS (HA), West Bengal,
15. ADHS (MH/TRG/AH/SH/EPI), West Bengal,
16. CMOH All Districts, West Bengal
17. DADHS (P&D), West Bengal,
18. DADHS (CH), West Bengal,
19. Superintendent, All DH / SDH / SGH / SSH / Decentralized Hospitals, West Bengal,
20. ACMOH, All Sub-Divisions, West Bengal.
21. BMOH, All Blocks. West Bengal,
22. MO PHCs -all
23. System Coordinator IT Cell with direction to post in Departmental website,
24. Office copy.

  
**Director of Health Services**

**Govt. of West Bengal**

  
**Director of Medical Education**

**Govt. of West Bengal**

# Surgical Safety Checklist



World Health  
Organization

Patient Safety  
A World Alliance for Safer Health Care

## Before induction of anaesthesia

(with at least nurse and anaesthetist)

- Has the patient confirmed his/her identity, site, procedure, and consent?**
  - Yes
- Is the site marked?**
  - Yes
  - Not applicable
- Is the anaesthesia machine and medication check complete?**
  - Yes
- Is the pulse oximeter on the patient and functioning?**
  - Yes
- Does the patient have a:**
  - Known allergy?**
    - No
    - Yes
  - Difficult airway or aspiration risk?**
    - No
    - Yes, and equipment/assistance available
  - Risk of >500ml blood loss (7ml/kg in children)?**
    - No
    - Yes, and two IVs/central access and fluids planned

## Before skin incision

(with nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon)

- Confirm all team members have introduced themselves by name and role.**
- Confirm the patient's name, procedure, and where the incision will be made.**
- Has antibiotic prophylaxis been given within the last 60 minutes?**
  - Yes
  - Not applicable
- Anticipated Critical Events**
  - To Surgeon:**
    - What are the critical or non-routine steps?
    - How long will the case take?
    - What is the anticipated blood loss?
  - To Anaesthetist:**
    - Are there any patient-specific concerns?
  - To Nursing Team:**
    - Has sterility (including indicator results) been confirmed?
    - Are there equipment issues or any concerns?
- Is essential imaging displayed?**
  - Yes
  - Not applicable

## Before patient leaves operating room

(with nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon)

- Nurse Verbally Confirms:**
  - The name of the procedure
  - Completion of instrument, sponge and needle counts
  - Specimen labelling (read specimen labels aloud, including patient name)
  - Whether there are any equipment problems to be addressed
- To Surgeon, Anaesthetist and Nurse:**
  - What are the key concerns for recovery and management of this patient?

-klist is not intended to be comprehensive. Additions and modifications to fit local practice are encouraged.

Revised 1 / 2009

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