

**Patients' Perceptions of Importance for Self-Administered Correct Site Surgery Checklist:
A Multisite Study**

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Introduction: The Council of Surgical Perioperative Safety (CSPS) recognized wrong site surgery as one of the major safety concerns and recommended strategies to prevent incorrect site surgery. Patient safety checklists are used to prevent errors, however, wrong site surgery although rare still occurs.

Identification of the problem: In 2020, the Joint Commission reported 794 sentinel events and wrong site surgery accounted for over 68 (8.6%).

Purpose: The purpose of this study was to describe and validate the association between patient's self-administered correct site checklist and perceptions of importance for safe surgery.

Methodology: The Internal Review Board approved a multisite non-experimental, quantitative, descriptive study. A convenience sample of 173 adult patients were obtained from four different geographical hospitals. Adult patients scheduled for surgery/procedure with laterality participated except patients with clinical or behavioral limitations. Participants completed a 24 item survey before and during surgery using a four-point Likert scale from one (not important) to four (extremely important). Descriptive data was analyzed using means, standard deviations, and percentage.

Results: Most of the participants positively perceived the importance of self-administered checklist. However, none of the survey items were rated 100% important / extremely important. Some areas not important /somewhat important were: site (6.9%); part of the limb/body (1.9-3%); name / birthday (4%) and ID bracelet information (2.9%). Findings indicated the importance of correct site surgery is critical; however, some patients reported it as noncritical and relied on healthcare team for their safety.

Discussion: Surgery is a time of high stress and anxiety for patients. Information is often overwhelming and can be difficult to understand. A self-administered checklist for safe surgery can enhance a patient's navigation of the surgical processes and encourage the patient and family members to ask questions and be part of the surgical process.

Conclusion: This study validated the importance of patients' perceived roles in promoting safe, correct site surgery by engaging patients in mitigating errors. Inclusion of patients as an integral part of the healthcare team is necessary through education.

Implications /Future Research: Educate and engage patients using the self-administered checklist. Further studies include outcomes associated with patient's engagement and reduction of wrong site surgery.

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