

November 2011

*I am writing to make a freedom of information request regarding the World Health Organisation (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist use in your trust.*

*1) Is the WHO surgical safety checklist in use in your hospital? When did you start using it?*

The WHO surgical safety checklist is used by the hospital. We started using it in July 2009.

*2) If so, has the use been audited?*

Yes.

*3) What are your compliance rates a) overall, b) in main theatres, c) in Day Case surgery and d) other areas it is used (please specify)*

These are the results of the audit of the pre-operative briefing section of the checklist. Audit results for January 2011 - October 2011 were as follows:

- a) Overall compliance rate was 98%
- b) Main theatre compliance rate was 98%
- c) Day Case surgery compliance rate was 96%
- d) Gynaecology compliance rate was 98%
- e) Ophthalmology compliance rate was 100%

*4) What are your compliance rates for*

*a) sign in completed,*

This is not currently audited. We have plans to audit in the near future when incorporated into the electronic record within the next 6 months.

*b) Time out completed*

Compliance rate greater than 99%

*c) Sign out completed.*

This is not currently audited. We have plans to incorporate into electronic patient record within the next 6 months

*5) Do you have a lead person overall in charge of compliance with the WHO Surgical safety checklist? If so what position/ specialty are they? (e.g. consultant anaesthetist, Theatre manager, etc. )*

Yes, our lead in charge of compliance is a Consultant anaesthetist

6) *Is there a single designated person allocated to each step to confirm completion of each of the three steps (sign in, time out and sign out), and if so what position/specialty are they for:*

a) *Sign in?*

Anaesthetist & anaesthetic theatre practitioner

b) *Time out?*

Whole team

c) *Sign out?*

Whole team

7) *In your trust since 1st February 2010 to today, how many patients have:*

a) *been anaesthetised without prior completion of a valid consent form?*

The only time we would ever operate on a patient without a consent form would be under life threatening conditions when the procedure would be carried out on the basis of the patient's perceived best interests.

b) *had surgery performed on the wrong site?*

3 patients had wrong site surgery performed, plus 1 wrong site incision.

c) *had the wrong procedure performed on them?*

None of our patients had the wrong procedure performed.