

SURGICAL SAFETY ACTIONS EVERY NURSE CAN TAKE

1. PATIENT SAFETY AND INFECTION CONTROL



Clean Hands First ^{*1}

Action: Perform proper hand hygiene before and after patient contact or sterile tasks.

Benefit: Reduces surgical-site infection risk.

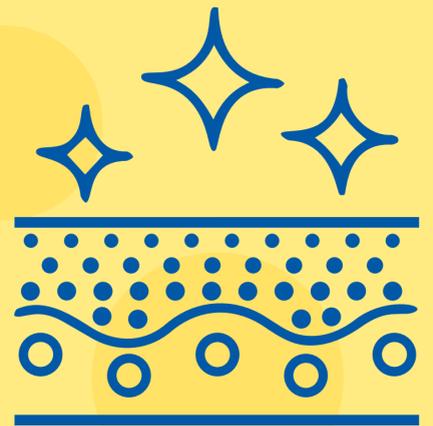
Why it matters: Clean hands protect patients and staff.

Prep Skin Safely ^{*2}

Action: Clean surgical site and use clippers, not razors, for hair removal.

Benefit: Lowers skin flora and infection risk.

Why it matters: Proper skin prep reduces contamination.



Control Patient Temperature ^{*2}

Action: Keep patient normothermic and support oxygenation as indicated.

Benefit: Reduces SSI and supports tissue healing.

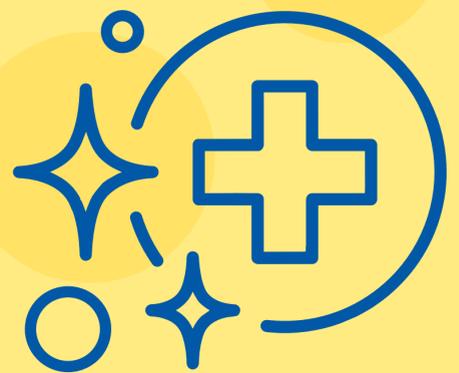
Why it matters: Physiological control improves recovery outcomes. patients and staff.

Maintain Sterility Always ^{*2}

Action: Follow strict aseptic technique; monitor for breaches in sterility.

Benefit: Prevents contamination of instruments and implants.

Why it matters: Even small breaks can cause serious infection.



Monitor Wounds Early ^{*2}

Action: Check surgical sites post-op and educate patients on care.

Benefit: Early detection reduces complications and morbidity.

Why it matters: Follow-up ensures safe recovery.

*1 AHRQ. (n.d.). *Perioperative hand hygiene*. ahrq.gov

*2 Global Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018.