

SURGICAL SAFETY ACTIONS EVERY NURSE CAN TAKE

2. STAFF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT



Filter Surgical Smoke*¹

Action: Evacuate surgical smoke using filters or suction.

Benefit: Protects staff and patients from harmful particles and chemicals.

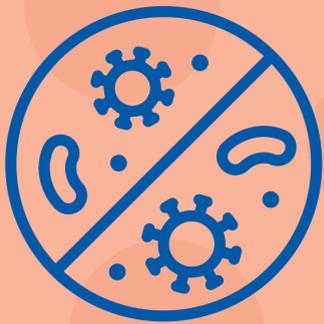
Why it matters: Surgical smoke is an occupational hazard.

Use PPE Properly*²

Action: Wear gloves, gowns, masks, and eye protection according to protocol.

Benefit: Reduces staff exposure to blood/body fluids and infection risk.

Why it matters: PPE protects both patients and nurses.



Maintain OR Environment*¹

Action: Keep floors dry, cords secured, chemical/fire hazards managed.

Benefit: Prevents slips, falls, and environmental contamination.

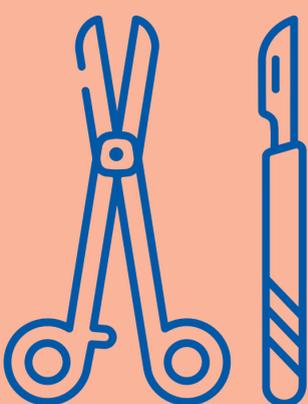
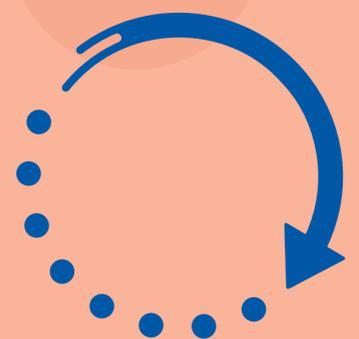
Why it matters: Safe OR setup protects patients and staff.

Limit OR Traffic*¹

Action: Reduce unnecessary movement and number of people entering/exiting OR.

Benefit: Maintains sterile field and lowers SSI risk.

Why it matters: Every extra door opening increases contamination risk.



Check Equipment Safety*³

Action: Confirm all instruments and equipment are functional and counted.

Benefit: Prevents retained items and boosts teamwork.

Why it matters: Equipment safety is key for error-free procedures.

*¹ Alp, E., et al. (2006). *Journal of Hospital Infection*.

*² WHO. (2009). *Safe Surgery Saves Lives*.

*³ Global Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018.