(A) Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Medical Staff and The University of Toledo Medical Center (UTMC) that healthcare providers follow the standards set forth in this document.

(B) Purpose of Policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish processes and highlight responsibilities for conducting the UTMC Comprehensive Surgical Checklist. This checklist is designed to ensure patient safety.

(C) Procedure

1. **Comprehensive surgical checklist.** Informed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Joint Commission Universal Protocol, the UTMC Comprehensive Surgical Checklist serves to ensure patient safety. There are three key elements to the checklist: Pre-procedure check-in, Time-Out, and Sign-out. All three portions will be completed.

   The attending surgeon or proceduralist is responsible for the overall completion of the UTMC Comprehensive Surgical Checklist.

2. **Pre-procedure check-in.** All items will be completed and discrepancies rectified before moving to the next step.
   a. Location-takes place in the preoperative ready area
   b. Team members: circulating RN and anesthesia provider; and the patient or his/her representative. If the procedure is being performed under local anesthetic or conscious sedation, the local RN or conscious sedation RN will perform the Pre-procedure check-in with the circulating RN.
   c. Team member responsible for initiating: - circulating RN
   d. Team confirms the following:
      1. patient identity using two patient identifiers
      2. procedure and procedure site/side
      3. completion of consent form(s) (policy 3364-100-10-01)
      4. Completion of history and physical and pre-op note if needed (policy 3364-100-45-18)
      5. procedure site/side marked by the attending surgeon or proceduralist
      6. allergies
      7. antibiotics ordered and started
      8. pre-operative RN assessment complete
      9. pre-anesthesia assessment complete
      10. anesthesia safety check complete
      11. pulse oximeter on patient and functioning
      12. difficult airway/aspiration risk assessed and preparation confirmed
      13. diagnostic/radiologic test results available
      14. need for blood products and number of units available
      15. equipment/devices/implants present in OR room.
3. **Time-Out.** All items will be completed and discrepancies rectified before moving to the next step.
   a. Location-takes place in the procedure room, before skin incision or procedure start.
   b. Team Members: circulating RN, anesthesia provider or local RN/conscious sedation RN; and the attending surgeon or proceduralist.
   c. Team member responsible for initiating: attending surgeon or proceduralist.
   d. The circulating RN is responsible for documenting the Time-Out in the electronic medical record.
   e. During the Time-Out process, all other activities are suspended and complete attention of all team members is required.
   f. Team confirms the following:
      1. team member introductions
      2. patient identity using two patient identifiers
      3. procedure and procedure site/side
      4. completion of consent form(s) (policy 3364-100-10-01)
      5. procedure site/side has been marked by the attending surgeon or proceduralist and is visible after draping
      6. allergies
      7. antibiotic prophylaxis completed before incision/procedure start
      8. critical or non-routine steps
      9. case duration
      10. anticipated blood loss
      11. site prepped and dry time met
      12. images labeled and displayed
      13. equipment/devices/implants in OR room
      14. sterilization confirmed
      15. all team additional concerns addressed.

4. **Sign-Out.** All items will be completed and discrepancies rectified before leaving the procedure room.
   a. Location-takes place in the procedure room.
   b. Team Members: circulating RN, attending surgeon, and anesthesia provider.
   c. Team member responsible for initiation: circulating RN.
      1. Team confirms the following: procedure name
      2. surgical wound classification
      3. sponge, sharp, and instrument count complete (policy 3364-124-02)
      4. specimens identified and labeled (policy 3364-107-112)
      5. equipment problems to addressed
      6. key concerns for recovery and post-operative management.

5. **Marking the procedure site.**
   a. The attending surgeon or proceduralist who is ultimately responsible for the procedure and will be present when the procedure is performed will mark the procedure site(s)/side(s) in the preoperative ready area before the patient is taken to the operating room or the procedure area.
   b. Marking the procedure site will be performed with the active involvement of the patient or his/her representative. The patient will be awake and fully conscious. (Exceptions would be a confused patient).
   c. The attending surgeon or proceduralist will mark the procedure site(s)/side(s) with his/her initials using a surgical marker. Do not mark with an “X”.
   d. The site mark(s) must be visible after draping and during the procedure.
   e. During the Time-Out, the attending surgeon or proceduralist will confirm the site mark.
   f. Site marking applies to all surgeries or procedures that involve laterality (e.g., limb or pair of organs), multiple surfaces or structures (e.g., flexor/extensor, skin lesions, fingers/toes) or levels (e.g., spine). For spinal procedures, in addition to preoperative skin marking of the general spinal region, special intraoperative imaging techniques may be used for locating and marking the exact vertebral level.
   g. When it is technically or anatomically impossible or impractical to mark the site (e.g., mucosal surfaces, perineum, teeth, premature infants and where marking might permanently discolor the skin), or a patient refuses site marking, the UTMC form with anatomic diagrams will be used to mark the correct site. The form will be signed, timed and dated by the attending surgeon or proceduralist. The site marking on the diagram will be confirmed by the team during the Pre-procedure check-in and the Time-Out.
h. Life threatening emergencies, as determined by the attending surgeon or proceduralist, may exempt the patient from site marking.

6. The definition of surgical or other invasive procedures for application of Universal Protocol Policy-Comprehensive Surgical Checklist are located in the appendix.

7. The circulating RN is responsible for the documentation and completion of the UTMC Comprehensive Surgical Checklist.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approved by:</th>
<th>Review/Revision Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard P. Swaine, CPA Date</td>
<td>5/27/2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Executive Officer - UTMC Date</td>
<td>6/22/2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Signature] 08/13/2020</td>
<td>6/1/2014</td>
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<td>Michael W. Ellis, MD Date</td>
<td>11/28/2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Medical Officer - UTMC Date</td>
<td>6/1/2020</td>
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Review/Revision Completed By: Chief Medical Officer

Next Review Date: 06/01/2022

Policies Superseded by This Policy:
APPENDIX

DEFINITION OF SURGICAL OR OTHER PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION OF UNIVERSAL PROTOCOL

NOTE of CLARIFICATION: This list is not all inclusive but is representative of the more common invasive procedures. All invasive procedures require

1. Surgical or other invasive procedures are those involving a skin incision or puncture including insertion of an instrument or foreign material into the body. These procedures expose patients to more than minimal risk and may be performed in settings other than the operating room such as a special procedures unit, endoscopy unit, or interventional radiology suite and include, but are not limited to:
   a. open surgical procedures
   b. percutaneous aspiration of body fluids through the skin (e.g., arthrocentesis, bone marrow aspiration, lumbar puncture, paracentesis, thoracentesis, suprapubic catheterization, and needle biopsy);
   c. biopsy (e.g., breast, liver, muscle, kidney, genitourinary, prostate, bladder, skin, bone marrow);
   d. cardiac procedures (e.g., cardiac catheterization, cardiac pacemaker implantation, angioplasty, stent implantation, intra-aortic balloon catheter insertion);
   e. central vascular access device insertion (e.g., Swan-Ganz catheter, percutaneous intravascular catheter (PIC) line, Hickman catheter);
   f. electrocautery of skin lesion;
   g. endoscopy (e.g., colonoscopy, bronchoscopy, esophagogastric endoscopy, cystoscopy, percutaneous endoscopic, transesophageal gastroscope, gastrostomy PEG, and J-tube placements, nephrostomy tube placements);
   h. laparoscopic surgical procedures (e.g., laparoscopic colectomy, laparoscopic nephrectomy);
   i. arthroscopy;
   j. invasive radiology procedures (e.g., angiography, angioplasty, percutaneous biopsy);
   k. laser therapy (e.g., eye, ear, nose, and throat);
   l. Dermatology procedures (biopsy, excision and deep cryotherapy for malignant lesions - excluding cryotherapy for benign lesions);
   m. invasive ophthalmic procedures, including miscellaneous procedures involving implants;
   n. oral surgical procedures including tooth extraction and gingival biopsy,
   o. Podiatric invasive procedures (removal of ingrown toenail, etc.);
   p. skin or wound debridement performed in an operating room;
   q. high risk chemotherapy i.e. vincristine
   r. nerve blocks
   s. interventional pain procedures
   t. injections of any substance into a joint space or body cavity;

2. Certain procedures will also be included because of their potential for patient risk and use of technology that is invasive, but does not involve a skin puncture or incision. These include but are not limited to:
   a. radiation therapy
   b. lithotripsy
   c. vinca alkaloids.
# COMPREHENSIVE SURGICAL CHECKLIST

## PREPROCEDURE CHECK-IN – in PRE-OP

**Time:** Just prior to transport to OR room.

**Team:** Circulator, Anesthesia Provider, Patient or Patient Representative

**Initiated by:** Circulator

- Patient Identity  
- Procedure & Site/Side  
- Consent(s) Signed  
- History & Physical Present (& Pre-op Note if needed)  
- Site Marked by Attending Surgeon & Visible  
- Allergies  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Antibiotic Ordered and Started  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Preoperative RN assessment performed  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Pre-anesthesia Assessment Performed  
- Anesthesia Safety Checks Performed  
- Pulse Oximeter on Patient & Functioning  
- Difficult Airway/Aspiration Risk  
  - No  
  - Yes & Preparation Confirmed  
- Diagnostic/Radiologic Test Results Available  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Blood Products (Risk of Blood Loss >500ml)  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- # of units available
- Equipment/Devices/Implants Present in OR room  
  - Yes  
  - N/A

## TIME-OUT – in OR

**Time:** After draping & just prior to incision.

**Team:** Circulator, Anesthesia Provider, Attending Surgeon or Designee

**Initiated by:** Attending Surgeon

- Team Member Introduction  
- Patient Identity  
- Procedure & Site/Side  
- Consent(s) Signed  
- Site Marked by Attending Surgeon & Visible After Draping  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Allergies  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- **Anesthesia Provider:**  
  - Antibiotic Prophylaxis Completed Before Incision  
    - Yes  
    - N/A

**Surgeon:**  
- Critical or Non-routine Steps  
- Case Duration  
- Anticipated Blood Loss

**Circulator:**  
- Site Prepped & Dry Time Met  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Images Labeled & Displayed  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Equipment/Devices/Implants in OR Room & Concerns Discussed  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Confirm Sterilization

**Team Additional Concerns:**  
- No  
- Yes & Addressed

## SUSPEND ALL ACTIVITIES DURING TIME-OUT!

## SIGN-OUT – in OR

**Time:** When surgeon scrubs out at procedure end.

**Team:** Circulator, Anesthesia Provider, Attending Surgeon

**Initiated by:** Circulator

- Confirm Procedure Name with Attending Surgeon
- Confirm Wound Classification with Attending Surgeon
- Sponge, Sharp & Instrument Counts Complete  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Specimens Identified & Labeled  
  - Yes  
  - N/A  
- Equipment Problems to Address  
  - Yes  
  - N/A

**All Team Members:**  
Key Concerns for Patient’s Recovery & Management?