

Ensuring Correct Surgery in the Veterans Health Administration

Days to hours before surgery

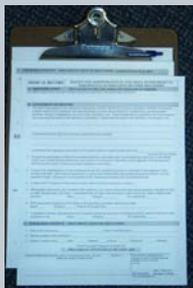


✓ Step 1: Consent Form

The consent form must include:



- ♦ patient's full name
- ♦ procedure site and side
- ♦ name of procedure
- ♦ reason for procedure



✓ Step 2: Mark Site

The operative site must be marked by a physician or other privileged provider who is a member of the operating team



Do **NOT** mark non-operative sites

Just before entering OR



✓ Step 3: Patient Identification

OR staff shall ask the patient to state (NOT confirm):

- ♦ their full name
- ♦ full SSN or date of birth
- ♦ site for the procedure



Check responses against the marked site, ID band, consent form and other documents

Immediately prior to surgery



✓ Step 4: "Time Out"

Within the OR when the patient is present and prior to beginning the procedure, OR staff must verbally confirm through a "time out":

- ♦ presence of the correct patient
- ♦ *patient properly positioned*
- ♦ marking of the correct site and side
- ♦ procedure to be performed
- ♦ availability of the correct implant

✓ Step 5: Imaging Data

If imaging data is used to confirm the surgical site, two members of the OR team must confirm the images are correct and properly labeled



For more information see the Veterans Health Administrative Directive 2004-028 and your Patient Safety Manager _____