



NATIONAL TIME OUT DAY

JUNE 16th, 2010

Time out!

Are you operating on the right patient? Right site? Right procedure?

Verify the correct person, site, and procedure:

- At admission
- At the time the surgery/procedure is scheduled
- Any time a patient is transferred from one caregiver to another
- While the patient is awake
- Before the patient leaves the preoperative area

Review the following:

- Documentation such as patient history and consent
- Relevant test results or x-rays
- Required implants and special equipment

Always mark the operative site. Be sure to:

- Make the mark at or near the incision site.
- Use the word "Yes" or your initials instead of an X; be consistent.
- Involve the patient in the site marking.

Conduct a "time-out" with the surgical team or operative. Check for:

- Correct patient
- Correct side and site
- Agreement on the procedure to be done
- Documentation of the time out



Eliminating surgical mistakes is a requirement of
The Joint Commission's Universal Protocol.