IMPLEMENTATION OF PREERIFICATION STANDARD CHECKLIST
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Background:
Pre-verification standard checklist is one of the three core elements of the Joint Commission Universal Protocol to address the prevention of wrong site surgery. Errors related to wrong side surgery continue to be a national concern. Preparing patients on the day of surgery can be a challenge trying to do the final quality check on all required elements. Providers, nurses, and other appropriate staff are busy and rushing. Therefore, the final checklist serves as a common communication tool among the health care team.

Objectives:
The goal is to create a standard pre-verification checklist, which includes the JC required elements and other safety checks to be used as a template for the other 11 Prep/Holdings in the institution.

Process:
Required data elements were identified and piloted in one Prep/Holding. Staff feedbacks were collated and used to modify the checklist and the process. Another pilot was conducted and staff feedbacks were more positive and endorsed the use of the checklist.

Successful Practice:
Balancing regulatory requirements and operationalizing the process with staff involvement resulted in a successful approval of the standard checklist.

Implications:
The safety role of a perianesthesia nurse is very valuable in the preparation of patients for surgery/procedure. Nurses are able to proactively conduct quality checks and immediately act upon issues that need to be resolved in a timely manner.