

Perioperative Safety Mission

We, the Perioperative Staff and Providers of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, strive to provide the safest environment for patient care. Central to our mission to improve child health, we hold patient and employee safety higher than any other priority, and to that aim we adhere to strict standards of professional behavior. We hold each other to 200% accountability for safety – the safety for our patients, ourselves and our team.

- We commit to:
 - Having a clearly identifiable Provider and Care Team responsible for every patient that directs their care throughout our perioperative areas.
 - Assuring that safe and high-quality care is expertly executed, every day for every patient, every time.
 - Continuously and transparently evaluating all aspects of patient care, and to speaking up and listening up for safety.
 - Embracing collective responsibility for our teams when caring for patients and responding with grace and gratitude to all concerns.
 - Modeling CARE Promises in all relationships with patients, families and members of the health care team to foster safety through teamwork, communication and collaboration.
 - Listening, educating and engaging our patients and families/caregivers as key safety partners to empower them to improve safety, outcomes and the future.
 - Recognizing that our safety culture relies upon the collective motivation of all the individuals participating in patient care.



Perioperative Safety Tenets

Following the principles outlined in our mission, the Perioperative Team and all Providers at Cincinnati Children's will provide safe and effective care to our patients and families. We believe compliance with these Tenets and responding with grace and gratitude will facilitate a safer surgical environment and ensure Cincinnati Children's Perioperative Area will be the safest possible patient care environment.

1. All consents will be completed in a clear and accurate manner that is understandable to patients, families and staff.
2. The Perioperative Team will ensure that the scheduled procedure is accurately scheduled, and that all special equipment needs and safety concerns are communicated.
3. Every patient will have appropriate surgical site marking (when indicated) that is clear to patients, families and all members of the Perioperative Team.
4. The Perioperative Team will confirm the plan with patient and family members present prior to surgery and encourage families to speak up.
5. All team members including patients and families will stop, engage and participate in time outs.
6. The responsible Providers will be present for all key portions of the procedure and at any time requested by team members.
7. The Surgeon will announce the placement of all unmarked or uncounted foreign body into a patient cavity. All team members will actively participate and communicate during the announce and count process.
8. All team members will ensure clear and accurate communication at all transfers of care.
9. All team members will communicate in a manner that maximizes team situation awareness, this will include but not be limited to pre-procedural huddles/planning, intraoperative huddles and team huddles anytime patient condition or situation changes.
10. All team members will be encouraged and empowered to utilize appropriate escalation pathways and closed loop communication to ensure safety.

