

# Working towards standard operating procedures in medicine : Checklists in surgery

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## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### Today's working reality

Cost effectiveness brings:

- less Nurse stuff
- less Doctors
- less education
- less time in the OR for surgeons



## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### Today's working reality

Cost effectiveness brings:

- more unspecific work for nurses
- more unspecific work for doctors
- less time for the patient



## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### Today's working reality

Less education:

Time in the OR for a surgeon when finishing a speciality is one third compared to 25 years before

Prof. Trentz, University Hospital Zurich, Department of Traumasurgery, Zurich, Switzerland



## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### Today's working reality

Less time:

- more and more ambulant procedures
- because of minimal invasive surgery  
shorter hospital stay
- more and more documentation



## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### Problem:

Less time for specific work and  
timepressure means less time for  
planning and preparation of e.g. surgical  
procedure



## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### **Problem:**

- Procedures get more and more technical e.g. navigated knee TEP has additional 20-30 steps to learn
- The most complex procedures are operated less often
- No team training (nurse staff – surgeon)

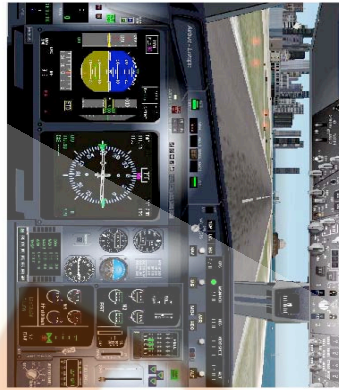


## Implementation of checklists – Why?

### **Standardised operation procedures**

- work flow not dependend on individual knowledge
- Reduction of Errors
- Stress reduction during complications?





## Airbus A320-200 Microsoft Flight Simulator 2004

Aircraft: Mike Stone's gmax Airbus  
Panel: AIRPACK project by  
Giovanni Combattelli and Ruggero Otto, Italy



Foto: Gerhard Vismann

Werner Schott  
Switzerland  
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Foto: Airbus Industrie

Other similar downloads and other useful resources were available for download at <http://www.fltsim.com> and <http://www.fltsim.com/downloads/aircraft/airbus/a320-200.html>



## Introduction of checklists – How to do ?

### Checklist for whole procedure

- Diagnostic
- preoperative
- day of surgery
- Intraoperative?
- postoperative



## Checkliste Anordnungen „Kolon“

### Vortag

- ✓ EKG
- ✓ R0- Thorax ab 65J
- ✓ Aufklärung OP
- ✓ bei Tumorpat.: Clexane 0,4ml 1x/d, PDK: Clexane 0,2ml reduzieren
- ✓ Bei Tumorpatienten: Sonografie Abdomen
- ✓ Blutgruppe bestimmen; bei pathologischem Hb 2EK's kreuzen
- ✓ Labor (BB / Quick, PTT / K+, Ca2+, BZ, Crea, Hst / GGT, AP, Bilirubin, GOT, GPT)
- ✓ Tumormarker CEA/CA19 -9
- ✓ Abführen: 2l Moviprep

### Bemerkungen

### OP-Tag

- ✓ Monitorüberwachung
- ✓ Schmerztherapie nach Anästhesie, sonst 7,5mg Dipidolor KI
- ✓ Novalgin 1g KI 0 -1-1
- ✓ BB und E'lyte um 18:00, klinische Untersuchung
- ✓ Tee/Wasser schluckweise, abends Yoghurt/Fresubin/Suppe
- ✓ 17.30 Uhr BB -Kontrolle

### 1. pop. Tag

- ✓ Novalgin 1g KI 1 -1-1, bei Bedarf 1g Peralgan KI
- ✓ Labor: Profil B
- ✓ DK entfernen
- ✓ Trinken frei, Infusionen 2l Sterofundin, Suppe, Yoghurt, Fresubin

### 2. pop. Tag

- ✓ Trinken mi n. 1,5l, Schonkost
- ✓ Novalgin 1g KI 1 -1-1
- ✓ Infusionen nach Anordnung
- ✓ Tumormarker ab 5. Tag, falls prä -op erhöht
- ✓ Passierte Kost



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

Implemented:

Diagnostic

Preoperative

Day of surgery

postoperative



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

Implemented:

### **Diagnostic**

e.g. diagnostic protocol for polytraumatised patients



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

Implemented:

Diagnostic

### **Preoperative**

implemented in some hospitals as necessity, which means no operation if not done



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

Implemented:

Diagnostic

Preoperative

**Day of surgery**

**postoperative**

e.g. standardized scheme of medicaments (pain killers), standardized gradual return to solid food



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

**Intraoperative**

-How to get the checklist information?



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?



"Pull out! Pull out! . . . You've hit an artery!"

### **Intraoperative**

- How to get the checklist information?
- Assistent reading the checklist?

## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

### **Intraoperative**

- How to get the checklist information?
- Assistent reading the checklist?
- In Endoscopic surgery implementation as voice controlled help Menu?

## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

### **Intraoperative**

- How to get the checklist information?
- Assistant reading the checklist after asked?
- In Endoscopic surgery implementation as voice controlled help Menu?
- No implementation during operation?



## Implementation of checklists – How to do ?

### **During Operation**

- Checklist only for surgeon or for the team?
- Only implementation of standard procedures?
- Algorithms for complication solution – possible or impossible because of complexity?
- variabel Checklists depending on complications?



## Implementation of checklists - setting



## Introduction of checklists - setting

- 40 medical students without former lap. experience
- Two groups, one with and the other without checklist
- Participants are randomly assigned to the groups

## Implementation of checklists - setting

- Every student had no experience with simulation
- Every participant was introduced to the simulator through experienced trainer
- One hour lecture about laparoscopic surgery and lap. Cholecystectomy
- familiarization with two tasks with different severity



## Implementation of checklists - setting

- Cholecystectomy procedure was chosen (dissection of cystic duct and artery)
- Procedure performed three times in increasing severity
- Stress was measured through skin resistance
- Errors and Results were measured through sim



## Implementation of checklists - setting

- Stress was measured with Biofeedback device (Fa. Schuhfried)
- Checklist information was given through trainer when asked
- Group members of checklist group had to use checklist



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MAINZ



### Checkliste Gallе

Auswahl der geeigneten Instrumente durch Herausziehen beider Arbeitsinstrumente

Wechsel der Instrumente mittels Öffnen und Schließen des betreffenden Instrumentes

Auswahl des Themohakens

Beginn der Präparation am Callot'schen Dreieck

Vorsichtige Präparation des Ductus Cysticus und der Arteria Cystica durch ausreichendes Anspannen des Gewebes und Elektrokauterisation

Sofortige Blutstillung bei auftretenden Blutungen

Erkennen von Problemen seitens der Anästhesie

Sofortiges Nachfragen welche Probleme entstanden sind und Absprache, ob weiteroperiert werden kann

Wenn ja, weiteroperieren

Wenn nein, abwarten und Absprache mit Anästhesie, wann Probleme gelöst sind

Fortfahren der Dissektion

Ausreichende Präparation mit sicherem Darstellen der A. cystica und des D. Cysticus

Vorsichtige und sichere Clipapplikation

2 zentrale (zu den Abgängen der Gefäße liegende) und 1 peripherer Clip

Durchtrennen der Gefäße zwischen den zentralen und dem peripheren Clip

Bei Auftreten von chirurgischen oder anästhesiologischen Komplikationen immer nach dem Checklisten vorgehen fragen



## Results

Technical Skills equally distributed in both groups

Stress measurement at rest equally distributed

Groups equally build concerning age, gender, interest of speciality, computer game experience



## Results

Preliminary results

- A trend for better performance on the Lap sim
- Better Performance at higher severity levels
- Less Stress



## Results

Less stress measured through skin resistance

- less stress events counted
- less overall stress



## Results

Since introduction of pre- and postoperative Checklists in our hospital

- significant error reduction concerning
  - missing diagnostic
  - preoperative preparation
  - postoperative pain
  - time of return to solid food



## Conclusion

- Implementation of checklists is useful and possible
- International consensus for treatment procedures is necessary
- Checklist must cover the whole „treatment team“ and „treatment procedure“



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