

MHA Call to Action: Safe ACCOUNT

Sponge Accounting Systems
Panel Discussion:
St. Cloud Hospital – Hanging Sponge
Holders

Transparency in Healthcare: Is it important??

- Story of Mary McClinton, State of Washington
- Injection of Phisohex[®] instead of contrast media for cerebral angiogram
- Survived five painful days before dying
- “Near miss” --- never disclosed

St. Cloud Hospital's Experience

- 37 year old female transferred to St. Cloud Hospital
- D&C performed at outlying facility after spontaneous rupture of membranes/miscarriage, 16-week pregnancy
- Uncontrolled bleeding, received 10 units of blood at facility and enroute
- Unresponsive on arrival, BP 69/48, HR 110, SaO2 91%
- Time in OR 0204, Procedure start 0215, procedure end 0519
- Hgb at start of procedure: 10.9; at end 8.9. During procedure: 2.9 (dilutional?)

- **Intraoperative:**

- 11 units packed red cells (10 prior to OR)
- 2 units platelets
- 9 units fresh frozen plasma
- 10 units cryoprecipitate
- 1 liter albumin
- 1 liter Hextend
- 450 cc crystalloid
- 3 gm calcium carbonate
- 100 mg bicarbonate

- Intraoperative blood loss: 4,000 cc
- Overall estimated blood loss for this event: 10,000 cc

- Two days postoperative:
 - Unexplained tachycardia with labs suggesting infection, retained surgical sponge on CT scan
 - Returned to OR for removal of lap sponge
 - Staff involved “devastated”

● Factors??

- Emergency procedure (counts completed)
- Abdominal exposure
- Two different teams of surgeons (total of three)
- Two RNs, Two STs
- “After hours” case
- Significant blood loss
- 65 lap sponges used during case
- High BMI

● Analysis:

- Several “thought” about taking an x-ray, but not verbalized
- RCA action plan included initiation of surgical count bags, and development of algorithm to assist in “defaulting” to the need for an x-ray

- Initiated at St. Cloud Hospital following discussion at Care Center Board/Surgical Suite Committee and extensive staff consultation and education

Sponge Count Bags









● Issues???

- Environmental “concerns”
- Time factor concerns
- Validation concerns with “swing rooms”
- Cost factors: Compare to a retained FB ---

● Information:

- Cost: Contract Pricing
- Manufacturer:
 - Xodus Medical
 - 1-800-963-8776
 - info@xodusmedical.com
 - www.xodusmedical.com
 - Justin Volk 1-800-963-8776, Ext. 16
- Owens (MediChoice product)
- asplinL@centracare.com

Transparency --- it's the RIGHT
thing to do!

