SURGICAL/PROCEDURAL FIRE RISK TRACER



POLICY	
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There is documentation that the organization periodically	
evaluates potential fire hazards that could be encountered.	
There are established written fire prevention and response	
procedures, including safety precautions related to the use of	
flammable germicides or antiseptics.	
FIRE PREVENTION - ENVIRONMENT OF CARE TOUR	
Evacuation Routes are posted in conspicuous locations.	
Fire exits are free and unobstructed.	
Fire exits are marked.	
Fire exit signage has working illumination.	
Evacuation corridors are free from obstruction.	
Fire and Smoke Barrier doors activate when alarm is activated.	
Doors with automatic closures positively latch when released.	
Electrical panels are not obstructed.	
Medical gas panels are not obstructed.	
Fire extinguishers are mounted in designated locations.	
Fire extinguishers have intact seals.	
Fire extinguishers are properly charged (check gauge).	
Fire extinguishers are labeled with class of fire for use.	
Fire extinguishers have been serviced in the previous 12 months.	
Fire extinguishers have been checked monthly.	
Fire extinguishers are not blocked by equipment.	
Sprinkler heads are free of dust and debris.	
Sprinkler head escutcheon plate/recessed covers are intact.	
Ceiling tiles are without gaps greater than 1/8 of an inch.	
Ceiling tiles are not missing.	
Storage of supplies is not within 18 inches of a sprinkler head.	
STAFF QUESTIONS	
How do you report a fire?	
Where is the nearest fire alarm pull station?	
Where is the nearest fire extinguisher?	
How do you operate a fire extinguisher?	
Where is the medical gas panel shut off located?	
How do you activate the medical gas panel shut-off valves?	
Where are the electrical panels located?	
What is the procedure for turning off the electrical system?	
How, when and to where do you evacuate?	
STAFF EDUCATION	
Review staff training and competency files. Do they show	
evidence of:	

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INDICATOR	Met	Not Met	Comments
Training on surgical/procedure fire risk and response (in			
addition to the standard staff fire training).			
Measures to take to prevent surgical/procedural fires			
Response actions to take in the event of a fire. Training a project to the appropriate the second sec			
Training an orientation to the equipment in the Training an orientation to the equipment in the Training an orientation to the equipment in the			
surgical/procedural area including sources of heat/ignition and fire response equipment.			
 Evidence of participation in a fire drill. 			
FIRE PREVENTION – SURGICAL/PROCEDURE CASE REVIEW			
A fire risk assessment is conducted at the beginning of the			
surgical procedure and appropriately documented as Low,			
Moderate or High Risk. Fire risk is communicated to the team.			
Alcohol based antiseptics are allowed adequate drying time			
after use.			
Alcohol based antiseptics are prevented from pooling during			
skin preparation and assessed for pooling or other moisture to			
ensure dry conditions prior to draping.			
Appropriately sized Alcohol based antiseptic applicators are			
used for the surgical site.			
If using an open medical gas delivery system, additional			
precautions are taken to exclude oxygen and			
flammable/combustible gases from the operative field, such as			
draping techniques that avoid accumulation of oxygen in the			
surgical field.			
All instruments are inspected for evidence of insulation failure			
(device, wires, and connections) prior to use.			
If a monopolar electrosurgical unit is used:			
It is not activated when near or in contact with other			
instruments.			
A return electrode monitoring system is used.			
Tips of cautery instruments should be kept clean and free of			
char and tissue.			
When not in use, ignition sources, such as ESUs, electrocautery devices, fiber-optic illumination light sources and lasers are			
placed in a designated area away from the patient (e.g., in a			
holster or a safety cover) and not directly on the patient or			
surgical drapes.			
Other items that generate heat, including drills and burrs, argon			
beam coagulators, and fiber-optic illuminators are used safely to			
prevent ignition.			
FIRE RESPONSE			
Staff member(s) announce the presence of fire where all			
surgical team members can hear and act accordingly.			
The main source of ignition is immediately stopped.			

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INDICATOR	Met	Not Met	Comments
Flammable gas flow is stopped.			
Electrical devices that may be involved are unplugged.			
Attempts to extinguish the fire are initiated in a timely manner:			
Water/Saline is used.			
CO2 or other extinguisher is used if the fire persists.			
All drapes and burning materials are removed to assess for			
evidence of smoldering materials.			
(For Airway Fires) Patient is removed from breathing circuit and			
extubated as applicable.			
Nearest fire alarm pull is activated.			
Organization's fire reporting phone number is dialed outside of			
the location of the fire.			
Staff member dialing the organization's fire reporting phone			
number provides complete and correct information.			
All possible sources of flammable materials were removed from			
the fire scene as appropriate.			
Staff demonstrated proper technique for evacuating the patient			
from the location of the fire scene.			
Staff identified the proper location to evacuate to from the fire			
Staff outside of the immediate fire scene are notified of the fire			
prior to the overhead announcement.			
Fire/Smoke barrier doors are closed to contain the fire.			
All staff, patients and visitors are accounted for with evacuation.			
All staff participate in the drill appropriate for their role and responsibilities.			
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