

Surgical site infection prevention bundle

Standard operating procedure (SOP) | SRG-SOP-003

Document type	Standard operating procedure (SOP)
Title	Surgical site infection prevention bundle
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Version and status	1.0 Issued for use. Pending ASF Expert Committee ratification
Prepared by	{{roles.quality_lead.name}}, Quality lead
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Effective date	{{document.effective_date}}
Next review	{{document.review_date}} (12 months, or sooner after any incident or change)
Replaces	None (new document)
Standards and criteria supported	Standard 2 (Operating Theatre and Surgical Safety), criterion 2.3
Evidence basis	E-006, E-009
Status of this document	Recommended best-practice model. A hospital may adopt, adapt or replace it with an equivalent that meets the same criteria.

At a glance: what to do

1. Give antibiotic prophylaxis within the set window before incision.
2. Prepare the skin with the approved agent, and let it dry.
3. Use sterile technique and change gloves if they are breached.
4. Dress the wound and record the closure.

Stop and get help straight away if: an antibiotic is given outside the set window, or skin preparation is skipped.

1. Purpose

To apply the bundle the same way for every procedure (2.3).

2. Scope

Applies to	Clinical and support staff in the hospital
Locations	All wards, clinics and departments of {{facility.legal_name}}
When	Whenever the activity described is carried out
Does not apply to	Activities covered by another document listed in section 15

3. Definitions and abbreviations

Term	Meaning in this SOP
Clinical lead	The doctor or nurse in charge of the area at the time

4. Background and rationale

To apply the bundle the same way for every procedure (2.3).

5. Responsibilities

Role	Duties in this SOP	Competence needed
Anaesthetist	Gives antibiotic prophylaxis in the window	Anaesthetist
Scrub nurse	Prepares the field and records sterile technique	Theatre nurse

6. Equipment, materials and resources

Item	Specification or standard	Check before use
Records and forms named in this document	Current version	Checked before use

7. Safety and infection prevention

- Stop and call for help if a patient is at immediate risk. Do not delay urgent care to complete paperwork.

8. Before you start

- Confirm the forms and equipment named in this document are available and current.

9. Procedure

Follow the steps in order. Where a step says "If", take the action for the case that applies. Do not skip a step. If a step cannot be done, use section 11 and section 12.

Step	Action	How to do it	Key point
1	Antibiotic.	- Give the prophylactic antibiotic within the set window before incision. - Record the time on the record.	Time is part of the dose.
2	Skin preparation.	- Prepare the skin with the approved agent, and let it dry before incision. - Remove hair only if it obstructs the site, with clippers.	Dry before incision.
3	Sterile technique.	Keep sterile field. Change gloves if breached. Record any break.	Break recorded, not hidden.

Decision points

- No decision points in this procedure.

10. Special situations

Situation	What to do
Out of hours	Follow the same steps. Use the on-call contact on the wall of the area.

11. Problems and escalation

- Any serious problem goes to the duty clinical lead at once and to the clinical director the same day.

12. Monitoring and compliance

What is checked	Target	How often	Who	If the target is missed
Antibiotic given within the window	At least 90%	Monthly	Infection prevention lead	Escalate to clinical director

13. Records

Record	Where it is kept	Kept for
Record named in this document	Patient record or the area file	{{facility.records_retention_}}

Record	Where it is kept	Kept for
		years}} years

14. Training and competence

- Staff are trained in this document at induction and refreshed each year, with a recorded competency check.

15. Related documents

ID	Title	Relationship
SRG-FRM-004	Surgical site infection bundle compliance record	Record
HOS-SOP-014	Healthcare-associated infection surveillance and response	Surveillance

16. Evidence

ID	Source and status
E-009	Based on the WHO Global Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection (2018).
E-006	ASF Policy Framework v1.2. Adapted.
E-009	ASF Expert Committee consensus.

EC = ASF Expert Committee consensus. Items marked EC are reviewed by the Committee each year.

17. Change history

Version	Date	What changed	Approver and signature
1.0	{{document.effective_date}}	First version	Pending Expert Committee approval