



GRIFFIN HEALTH

# **A “STRAP” of Prevention Goes a Long Way!**

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A photograph of a large, multi-story brick hospital building with a prominent glass-enclosed entrance. The building is set against a blue sky with light clouds. A blue car with 'Griffin Hospital' written on it is parked in front of the entrance. The image is framed by a large, stylized green and white graphic element that curves around the top and left sides of the slide.

# MAJOR CONCERN

*In the Perioperative Environment*

# ***ENSURING PATIENT SAFETY***

**Becker's – 6 Steps  
To Ensure OR  
Safety & Efficiency**

6/30/2021

**SCHEDULING  
ACCURACY**

**APPROPRIATE  
PATIENT  
PREPARATION**

**SUPPLY AND  
INSTRUMENTATION  
SETUP**

**CLEAR  
COMMUNICATION**

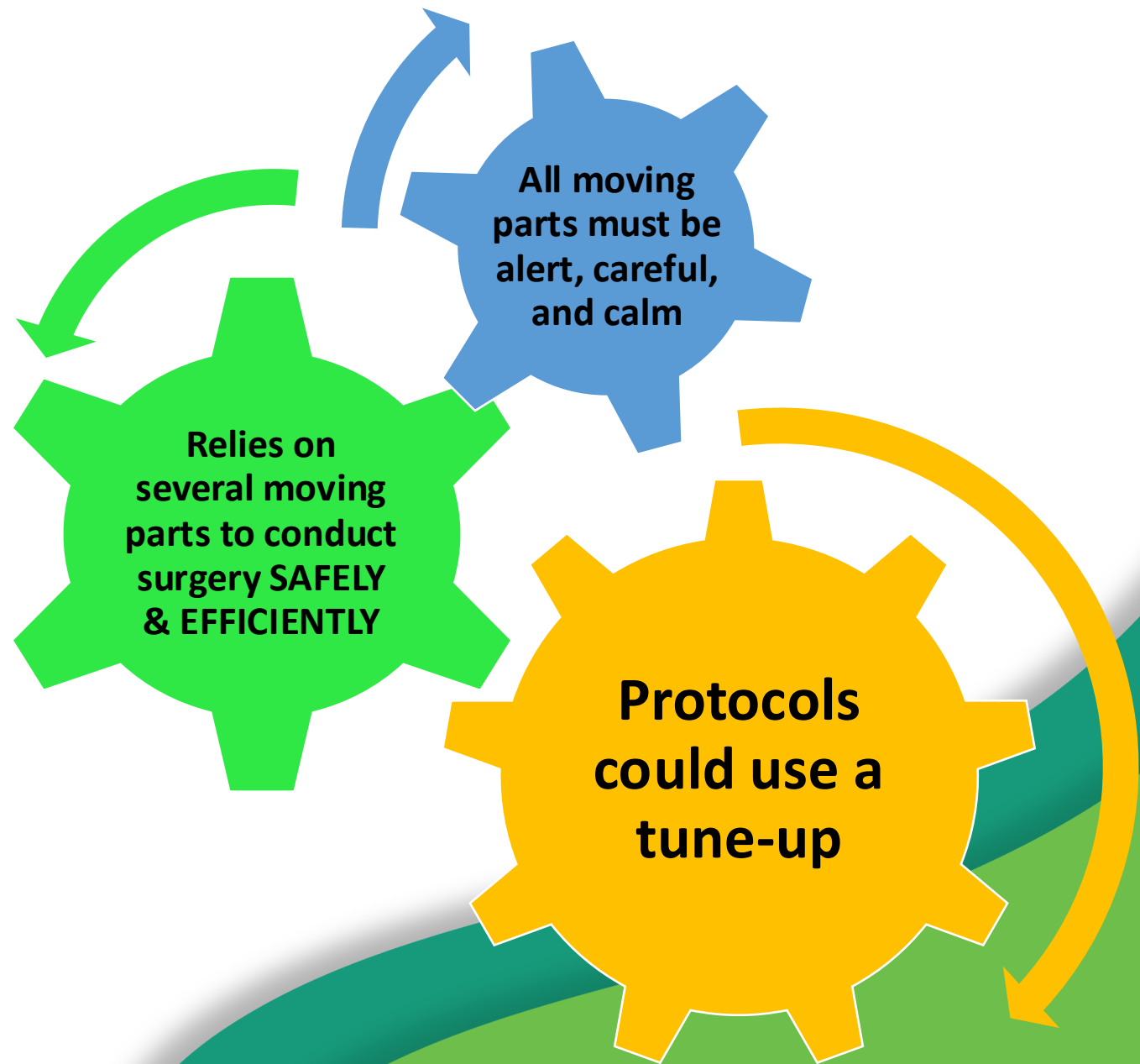
**TIME OUTS**

**MANAGEMENT  
OF  
OR TECHNOLOGY**

# *Operating Rooms*



**MACHINES**



# ***ENSURING PATIENT SAFETY***



Health Services

**Medical Errors**

Diagnostic Errors

Missed Diagnosis

Medication Errors

Inappropriate Prescribing

Medication Reconciliation

Near Miss, Healthcare

- Begins before patient enters the operative suite
- Paying attention → all types of preventable medical errors
- Being aware surgical errors → unique to this environment



# KEY ASPECTS



Preprocedural/Preoperative	Intraoperative	Postoperative
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conversation between patient &amp; MD occurred &amp; patient understands.</li> <li>2. MD office sends booking to OR – patient ID, procedure, MD &amp; specialty equipment needed.</li> <li>3. Procedure booked/scheduled – preference card generated.</li> <li>4. Equipment, devices &amp; implants are available.</li> </ol> <p><b>DOS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Confirm patient ID.</li> <li>4. Confirm correct procedure, site &amp; side.</li> <li>5. Confirm consents (surgical, anesthesia) signed, dated &amp; timed.</li> <li>6. Laterality confirmed &amp; site marked.</li> <li>7. Confirm nursing assessment, H&amp;P, labs performed.</li> <li>8. Confirm NPO status &amp; meds taken.</li> <li>9. Appropriate ABX is available &amp; given.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Perform sign-in with anesthesia.</li> <li>2. Appropriate/proper positioning, padding, &amp; anatomical alignments.</li> <li>3. Confirm equipment, devices, implants available.</li> <li>4. Appropriate prepping &amp; allowing for adequate dry time.</li> <li>5. Perform “Time Out” before start of the procedure.</li> <li>6. Follow Surgical Safety Checklist – ensuring ↓ risk of error.</li> <li>7. Preventing medication errors.</li> <li>8. Performing surgical counts ↓ retained foreign objects.</li> <li>9. ESU safety.</li> <li>10. Fire Risk Assessment.</li> <li>11. Maintaining aseptic/sterile practices.</li> <li>12. Constant/situational awareness &amp; surgical conscience.</li> <li>13. Minimizing distractions, nonessential activities &amp; NOISES!</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Airway management.</li> <li>2. Continuous monitoring.</li> <li>3. Monitoring vital signs, O2 SAT &amp; temp.</li> <li>4. Monitoring neurological status.</li> <li>5. Pain management.</li> <li>6. Wound care.</li> <li>7. Medication management.</li> <li>8. Fluid &amp; electrolyte balance.</li> <li>9. Hand-off communication/handovers.</li> <li>10. Discharge instructions.</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Equipment, devices &amp; implants are present.</li> <li>11. Any concerns/Misc issues.</li> <li>12. Hand-off communication.</li> <li>13. EHR documentation.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Debriefing</li> <li>15. Any concerns/Misc Issues.</li> <li>16. Hand-off Communication</li> <li>17. EHR documentation.</li> </ol>	



# MAXIMIZING PATIENT SAFETY DURING SURGICAL PROCEDURES

Minimizing risks → CRUCIAL

↓ Risk exposure:

1. Anesthesia complications
2. Surgical errors
3. Surgical positioning errors (e.g. patient falls)
4. Postoperative infections



*Possess clear understanding of:*

*Procedure  
&  
Right equipment*



*Enables a  
Seamless Surgical  
Experience*





placed on **Patient falls** occurring before & after surgery

Potentially serious & often overlooked complication  
during anesthesia care



## *Patient falling off Operating Table*

Most result in temporary non-disabling injuries  
9.5% = sustained permanent severe injury

(Prielipp et al. 2017)



# CONTRIBUTING FACTORS →



## 1. OR Tables

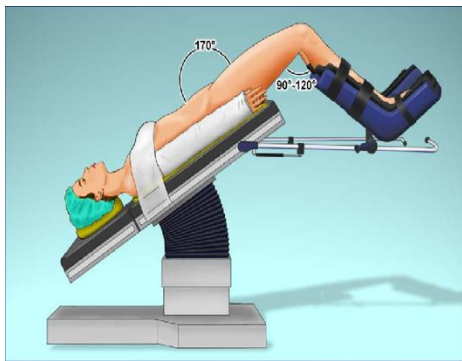
- Evolved along with rapid transition to minimally invasive surgeries.



**Prioritize Safe Surgical Positioning!!!**

- Design, materials & electronic controls of modern tables ↑ speed of changes & expanded range of positioning options.

Steep Trendelenburg



Lateral Tilt



# CONTRIBUTING FACTORS →



## 2. Patients



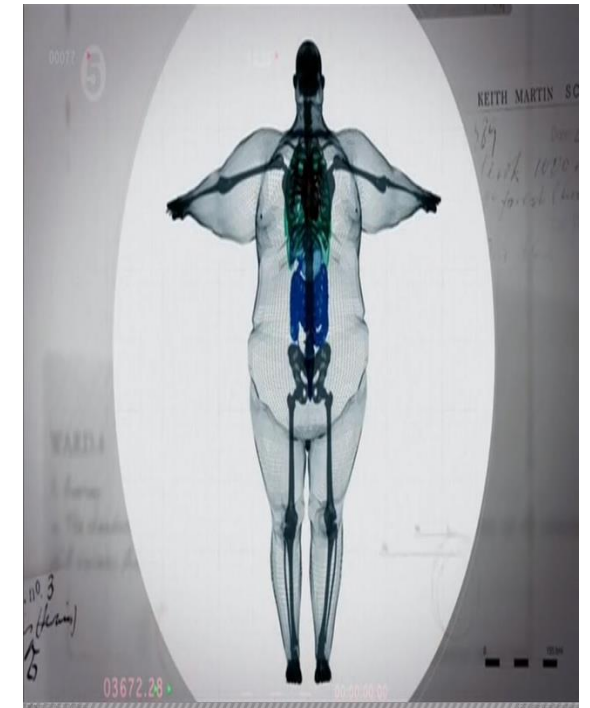
- Become agitated → Altered Consciousness  
*(occurs when muscle relaxants not used during GA)*

***May move or shift during procedures***

- ↑ Obese population
  - Results in maldistribution of weight across OR Tables
  - Could reduce margins of safety for common surgical positions
  - Width of tables → not adapted to increase in sizes & weight



***Surgical Positioning Errors!!!***



# CONTRIBUTING FACTORS →



## 3. Provider actions & inactions

- Staff distracted from observing patients during periods when  
**Under sedation or awakening → Confused or agitated**
- Assumption other healthcare providers are securing the patient
- **Inadequate application/absence of safety restraints**



Among factors leading to  
***Adverse Events***



# PATIENT FALLS

## Preventable Adverse Events

**\*\* MAJOR CONCERN \*\***

Ensuring Patient Safety

Ensuring awareness of risk factors  
that may contribute

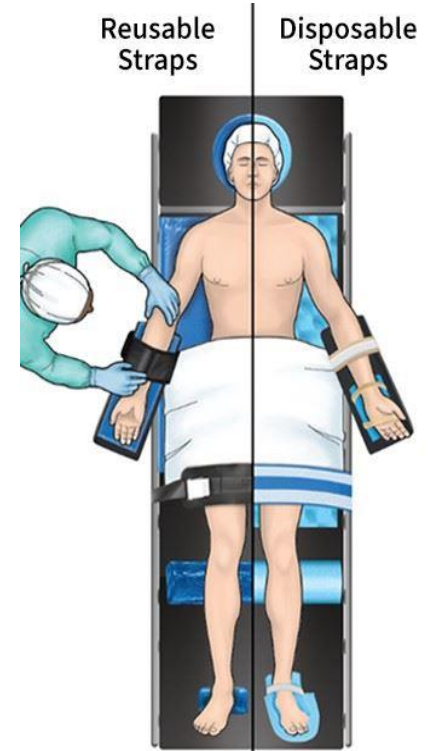


Essential critical element → **SAFETY STRAP!**

*OFTEN GOES UNNOTICED!!*

# ?? OR SAFETY STRAPS ??

- Medical devices → surgical procedures
- Made of strong, durable materials
- Variety of options:  
*Full body immobilization → Bariatric → Armboard straps → Sensitive/damaged skin*
- Disposable (single-use) & reusable (disinfected between patients)
- Different lengths/widths
- Accommodate patients of any size
- Sensitive or damaged skin
- Different closure types → hook & loop or buckles
- OR tables with or without side rails



# ?? ROLE/PURPOSE ??

- Designed to secure, immobilize & properly position patients
- Provide safety & stabilization during surgical procedure
- Facilitate access for the surgical team
- Minimize the risk of potential harm → **PATIENT**



***Primary Goal = Preservation of Patient Safety***



# ?? BENEFITS ??

- Secure, immobilize & properly position
- Help maintain patient's position
- Ensure no unnecessary movements
- Maintain unobstructed/optimal access to the surgical site



*Minimize the risk of complications*



*Provide patient with best chance  
for successful surgical outcome*



Important



**APPLY NOW**

# THE UNSUNG HERO



- Meet unique needs of each patient & procedure.
- Purpose-built, durable, versatile & strong.
- Guarantee patients remain in correct position.
- Foster a secure environment for surgical team to work effectively.
- Ensure patients are immobilized safely & comfortably.
- Reduce risk of unintended complications & adverse events during surgical procedures.
- Ensure patients receive the care they deserve without compromise.
- Play an integral role in *Patient Safety*



+  
*Success of Surgical Procedure*

# CHOOSE THE RIGHT STUFF!!!

- Variety of types = variety of needs & procedures
- Disposable vs Reusable
- Patient condition (e.g. Bariatric, pediatric, geriatric, sensitive/fragile skin, etc)
- Type of procedure = specific types of table straps
- Different surgical tables → different safety straps (e.g. fracture table)

*Correct type of surgical table strap = achieves best possible patient outcomes.*



***ENSURING PATIENT SAFETY!!***



# PATIENT SAFETY IN POSITIONING

## BEST PRACTICES

- Placing safety straps across patients' thighs as soon as they are transferred to the OR table.

***Reminds them that the bed is narrow!***

- Tightening safety straps just enough to secure the patient without impairing superficial flow of blood back to the heart.

***Safety straps should be placed  
2 inches above the patient's knee!***

**Risks of not using safety straps out weigh the risks of using them!!**

**Not using = serious consequences for both patients and the surgical team!**

# IN CONCLUSION

- Patient safety in the OR is paramount.
- Surgical errors are unique to this environment + preventing them requires a vigilant team effort by all involved.
- Despite changes in health care – constant concern is to ensure exceptional patient safety & care.
- Patient care must be delivered safely utilizing safety tools and guidelines.
- Recognize → humans make errors + errors are inevitable.

*Failures occur by choosing inappropriate methods of care or by poor execution of an appropriate method of care.*

- **Not using safety straps:**
  - Jeopardizes patient safety,
  - Compromises surgical precision,
  - Exposes patients and the surgical team to avoidable risks.
- *Properly securing patients with safety straps is a fundamental aspect of responsible surgical practice.*

**ALWAYS PRIORITIZE  
THE SAFETY &  
WELL-BEING OF  
PATIENTS!!**



#### REFERENCES:

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