

29th International Conference on
Nursing Education and Research
&
14th International Conference on
Cancer and Cancer Therapy

December 05-06, 2019 | Dubai, UAE

Nursing role in ambulatory surgical care

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Nurses play a critical role in patient safety. They provide high-quality, evidence-based care across the lifetime to enhance safety and reduce adverse events. The primary goal of nursing care in ambulatory surgical procedure is to prevent surgical site infection (SSI) and other surgical complications, improve patient safety, experience and satisfaction.

Many factors can contribute to the risk of SSIs and their prevention is complex but achievable. It requires specific measures such as patient preparation before, during and after surgery, appropriate hand hygiene, sterility of the instruments, etc...

Clinical evidence demonstrated that operating room (OR) activities related to asepsis and aseptic practices have the highest direct impact on the surgical team in helping to reduce the patient's risk to surgical site infection. Having policies and procedures in OR does not mean compliance is guaranteed. The efficacy of these policies depends on the knowledge skills of the team and how well the surgical team adheres to them. Besides, team communication and collaboration are very critical to achieve excellence in ambulatory surgical care.

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