

ACTIONS TO PREVENT THE RETENTION OF INTRACAVITY OBJECTS IN SURGERY

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PURPOSE:

To describe proposals by surgical nurses to reduce the risk of intracavitary objects in surgical procedures.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Retention of surgical items is a serious and preventable event that can result in patient harm. It is known as a common adverse event in the intraoperative environment, and is directly related to the assistance of professionals who participated in the surgical moment. **Research question:** What actions are recommended to prevent retention of intracavitary objects in surgical procedures?

Conceptual framework: Descriptive, exploratory study with a qualitative approach.

METHODOLOGY:

Data from a scientific meeting held in 2019, in São Paulo, on the retention of intracavitary objects. Specialist perioperative nurses participated. Data were collected through audio recording and meeting records. The research project was approved by the Research Ethics Committee. **Data Analysis:** Data were analyzed from the perspective of Minayo's thematic analysis.

RESULTS: 19 nurses from six Brazilian states participated in the study. The following actions were proposed by the study participants to prevent the retention of intracavitary objects:



Promote permanent and multidisciplinary education



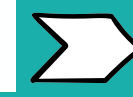
Establish and follow good institutional practices



Follow a safe surgery protocol



Act in an integrated manner with the sterilization service team



Make use of processes and technologies that contribute to increasing patient safety



Perform counting of instruments and surgical material



Strengthen interdisciplinary work

CONCLUSIONS:

The nursing team has a fundamental role in reducing the risk of retention of intracavitary objects, carrying out the control of all material and surgical instruments, reinforcing the importance of valuing the performance of the nursing team in favor of patient safety. This study highlights the problem of retention of intracavitary objects in surgeries and the need for this topic to be widely discussed in health institutions, involving surgeons and nursing staff. The study highlights the importance of perioperative action in risk management, in the implementation of measures to prevent adverse events and in the development of continuing education actions.