



## JOINT COMMISSION JEWELS

### Universal Protocol: Prevent wrong site, wrong procedure, and wrong person surgery.

#### **UP 01.01.01: Conduct a pre-procedure verification.**

1. Identification/verification of the correct patient, procedure, site and side (as appropriate) is completed at the following times:
  - When the surgery/procedure is scheduled
  - When the patient is admitted to the facility
  - When the patient is transferred from one caregiver to another
2. Identification/verification is done before any sedation with the patient awake and aware (if condition allows).
3. Identification/verification is done before the patient enters the surgical or procedural area (example - holding area, patient's room for bedside).

#### **UP 01.02.01: Mark the procedure site.**

1. Site marking is required for all procedures involving laterality, multiple sutures (fingers, toes, lesions, or multiple levels).
2. Site marking may be omitted in cases in which the physician performing the procedure is in continuous attendance with the patient from the time the informed consent is obtained until the procedure is performed. The time-out verification still applies.

#### **UP 01.03.01: A time-out is performed before the procedure.**

1. The final verification or "timeout" is done immediately prior to the start of the procedure with the patient already sedated/anesthetized. All team members must remain present in the room after the final verification has been done or it will need to be repeated.
2. The following will be "verified" during the "timeout" procedure.
  - A. Correct patient identity
  - B. Correct procedure to be done
  - C. Correct site (if applicable); Correct side (if applicable)
  - D. Correct site marking (if applicable)
  - E. Correct patient position (if applicable)
  - F. Correct image labeled/displayed (if applicable)
  - G. Correct special equipment and/or implants availability (if applicable)

**NOTE:** If there is any conflict or confusion concerning the patient's identification, the procedure to be performed, or the procedure side or site, the procedure is halted until any discrepancy is resolved. All members of the team will be involved in the resolution. The patient or patient's family will be involved, as necessary.