

Guide to the Safe Surgery Checklist 1-on-1 conversation

Use the points below to guide your conversation with surgical team members.

Remember to tailor your conversation to the interests and concerns of each individual.

Key points and suggested flow

1. Introduce the checklist and emphasize that the checklist is about communication and teamwork.
2. Explain how the checklist is different from what you are currently doing and that it builds upon the Time Out.
3. Acknowledge that the person you are speaking with is already safe. Be clear that you are not singling them out because you think that they are not safe.
4. Share some of the benefits of using the checklist.
5. Tell them how important they are to the success of the project.
6. Explain how they can help set a positive tone in the operating room or procedure room by using the checklist.
7. Walk through the checklist and explain to them how to use it and what their part in using it is.
8. Talk about how using the checklist communicates professionalism to others on the team.
9. Ask for help.
10. Thank them for their time.

For ideas about how you can respond to specific questions or concerns, ask your implementation lead for a copy of the quick-reference guide *The Safe Surgery Checklist: Addressing questions and objections*.