

CARDIAC SURGERY CHECKLIST

Before **Anesthesia**

Nurse and **Anesthesia Professional** verify:

- Patient identification (name and DOB)
- Surgical procedure matches consent
- Site marked
- Known allergies
- History and physical in patient chart
- Anesthesia safety check is completed

Anesthesia Professional shares:

- Anticipated airway or aspiration risk
- Appropriate blood products available
- Intravenous access/monitoring plans
- Lung isolation

Team confirms:

- Warming blanket, if indicated
- Patient positioning
- R2 pads on and hooked up
- C-arm needed

CARDIAC SURGERY CHECKLIST

Before Incision

Circulating Nurse asks:

“Is everyone ready for the time out? Please state your name and role.”

TIME OUT

Entire Surgical Team confirms:

- Patient identification
- Procedure matches consent
- Essential imaging available
- Bloodborne pathogen
- Antibiotic prophylaxis given within last 60 minutes?
- Antibiotic redosing plan discussed?

Surgeon shares:

- Operative plan
- Possible difficulties
- Expected duration
- Implants or special equipment

Anesthesia Professional shares:

- Anesthetic plan
- Other concerns

TEAM BRIEFING

Nursing Team shares:

- Sterility, including indicator results
- Any equipment issues
- Other concerns

Perfusion Team shares:

- Anticoagulation strategy
- Temperature management
- Cannulation strategy
- Cardioplegia strategy
- Other concerns

Surgeon says:

“Does anyone have any concerns?”

If you have concerns during the case, please speak up.”

CARDIAC SURGERY CHECKLIST

Before **Bypass**

Surgeon and **Anesthesia Professional** discuss:

- Echo and other relevant findings

Perfusion Team shares:

- Cannulation and pressure strategy
- Adequate anticoagulation for bypass
- Temperature strategy

Surgeon discusses with team:

- Any changes to the operative plan

Surgeon asks:

“Is everybody ready for bypass?”

Before **Wean from** **Bypass**

Surgeon discusses:

- Surgical procedure performed

Anesthesia Professional confirms:

- Accurate placement and connection of pacing wires

Perfusionist shares:

- Need for vasoactive agents
- Volume status of patient

Anesthesia Professional shares:

- Need for inotropic support
- Oxygenation/ventilation concerns
- Coagulation, need for blood products
- Confirmation that ventilator is on

Surgeon asks:

“Is everybody ready to go off bypass?”

Before **Protomine** **given**

Surgeon and **Anesthesia Professional** discuss:

- Echo results
- 12-lead EKG results
- Stability of cardiac function on current inotrope/pressor management

CARDIAC SURGERY CHECKLIST

Before
Patient
leaves room

Nurse reviews with team:

- Instrument, sponge, needle counts
- Read back specimen labels including patient's name
- Patient's armband on/accurate

TEAM DEBRIEFING

Entire Surgical Team discusses:

- Name of the procedure performed
- Equipment problems to be addressed
- Key concerns for patient recovery and management
- All anticoagulation reversed
- Post-pump antibiotics given/applicable
- Medication/drips
- If difficult airway/information transmitted to ICU

Surgeon asks:

“What can be done to make the next case safer or more efficient?”