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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AORN Releases Implementation Guide for Prevention of RSIs
Recommended practice summarized for use at surgical bedside

Denver, Colo. Feb. 8, 2012 – The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) has published an Implementation Guide for the “Recommended practices for prevention of retained surgical items (RSIs).” The guide, in the February issue of *AORN Journal*, is the third in a series of *Journal* articles that are designed to bridge the gap between standards and their implementation. The Implementation Guide for the Recommended Practices for Prevention of RSIs includes real life scenarios for ambulatory and hospital patients as they may be experienced by the perioperative nurse.

Each article in the *Journal* implementation series features an RP summary that can serve as a reference, a visual aid, a means to resolve disputes, and materials to help prepare for the CNOR exam. The RP Implementation Guide focuses on a single recommended practice document, describing significant changes, areas of risk or concern, elements of compliance with accreditation and regulatory requirements, and strategies for successful implementation.

Strategies for implementing the recommended practices for prevention of RSI include teamwork and the perioperative RN taking on an active role by providing an accurate accounting of items that are dispensed before and during a surgical or invasive procedure, using appropriate detection technologies, and advocating for patients through collaboration with risk managers and other professional colleagues.

The *AORN Journal* is peer reviewed and provides registered nurses in the operating room and related services with information based on scientific evidence and principle. Articles cover the nurse’s roles before, during, and after surgery and include patient teaching and preparation, use and care of surgical instruments and supplies, asepsis, sterilization, anesthesia, and related topics.

About AORN

AORN represents the interests of more than 160,000 perioperative nurses by providing nursing education, standards, and practice resources—including the peer-reviewed, monthly publication *AORN Journal*—to enable optimal outcomes for patients undergoing operative and other invasive procedures. AORN's 40,000 registered nurse members manage, teach, and practice perioperative nursing, are enrolled in nursing education or are engaged in perioperative research. www.aorn.org

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