



## QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO PRODUCT SELECTION:

Impact on patient outcomes | Impact on patient/staff safety | Economic considerations

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Use the following pages to help facilitate discussion with vendors, write your own questions, and take your notes back to your facility.

<b>STERILIZATION</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
In what instances should sterilization and high-level disinfection be used?			
What is the sterilization equipment's status with the FDA, CDC, or any other regulatory group?			
Operating theory and principles?			
Ease of operation?			
What is the cost of the equipment and cost of operation?			
What are the maintenance schedule and maintenance history?			
What products/instruments/scopes does the chamber accommodate? How big or small a load?			
Are there any product restrictions (e.g., manufacturers not recommending)?			
What is the equipment's footprint - how much space will it take?			

<b>CONSTRUCTION/ REMODELING</b>	<b>Answered satisfactorily?</b>	<b>Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
New construction or remodeling?			
What are the goals/objectives of the new construction or remodeling?			
How much space is needed for the desired equipment, and is there enough room without contaminating sterile field?			
Is there a footprint of what the room will look like fully equipped (e.g., Cad-Cam, other 3D rendition, Robotics)?			
What are special considerations - (e.g., shielding for MRI)?			
If the construction is a remodeling project, what special precautions should be taken to segregate rooms that are in use from the remodeling area?			
Have infection control procedures been established?			
Will any equipment be hung from booms? If so, will reinforcement of the ceiling be required?			

<b>CONSTRUCTION/ REMODELING</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
What considerations will be taken regarding traffic flow in the remodel or new construction space?			
If the construction project is a hybrid room, what is the size and configuration of the imaging equipment?			
Does the floor need to be reinforced?			
Who is responsible for coordination with clinical staff members, architects, and equipment manufacturers?			
<b>GREENING OF THE OPERATING ROOM</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
Have clear and measurable objectives been identified?			
Will there be a focus on energy consumption, waste, or both?			
What will be the process to evaluate reusable versus disposable items?			
What will and will not be considered for reprocessing?			

<b>GREENING OF THE OPERATING ROOM</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
How to balance against patient/staff safety - (e.g., double gloving for sharps safety)?			
When is feasible to refurbish equipment rather than replace it?			
Are there surgical items that are disposed of but never used and are there ways to reduce that waste?			
What steps are taken to segregate noninfectious from infectious waste? Could this process be improved?			
With new construction or remodeling, has the facility taken steps to achieve energy-efficiency?			
<b>NEW TECHNOLOGIES</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
For robot-assisted surgery, has the footprint of the robot and layout of the OR been determined?			
If robot-assisted surgery is present are policies and procedures clearly set for the device's use?			
Have the perioperative staff members received adequate training for the operation for the surgical robot, and are they well-versed in positioning considerations of the patient undergoing robot-assisted surgery?			

<p align="center"><b>NEW TECHNOLOGIES</b></p>	<p>Answered satisfactorily?</p>	<p>Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?</p>	<p>Comments</p>
<p>Are policies and procedures in place identifying the inspection of new technology by biomedical personnel prior to use in the OR and at regular intervals.</p>			
<p>For advanced MIS procedures, is the staff trained in specialty stapler loading?</p>			
<p>Are MIS surgery staff members familiar with advanced forms of energy used in MIS, and can they competently operate the equipment?</p>			
<p>When biologics are used in surgery, are staff members sufficiently trained in mixing and handling procedures to avoid contamination and waste?</p>			
<p>Are there mechanisms in place to prevent medication errors when pharmaceuticals are used during surgery?</p>			
<p>Are policies and procedures, as well as training, in place for image-guided navigation procedures?</p>			
<p>Are policies and procedures in place, as well as education, for the staff members of SPD for all new technologies brought into the OR?</p>			

<b>HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUES</b>	<b>Answered satisfactorily?</b>	<b>Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Are there clear job descriptions and corresponding competencies for all positions in the perioperative area?			
Are clear goals set for on-boarding new nurses in the perioperative areas, and is there a clear training path to accelerate adapting to the new environment?			
What programs are in place to keep experienced perioperative nurses current with new techniques and technologies?			
What are the goals related to retention/turnover, and is the facility meeting, exceeding or coming short on those goals?			
Is there a clear succession plan in place?			
Is there a clear program for new managers as they shift from a purely clinical role to a managerial role?			
Has the average age of your nursing staff been tracked and is the facility prepared for the onset of retirement?			

<b>HUMAN RESOURCES ISSUES</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
What is the facility's process for competency assessment?			
Are perioperative staff members satisfied that the facility is tracking and developing competencies of the staff?			
Are you using checklists effectively? Is there any push-back?			
What is being done to build multidisciplinary teamwork? Are there special programs in place to improve team communications?			
<b>ORTHOPEDIC AND CARDIAC SURGERY</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
Is the orthopedic service current on minimally invasive techniques?			
Does the facility set clear expectations with its orthopedic suppliers for delivery of instrument sets, allowing plenty of time for sterile processing?			
Are cardiac service staff members current on minimally invasive and other new cardiac techniques?			



<b>ORTHOPEDIC AND CARDIAC SURGERY</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
Have clear expectations been set for cardiac suppliers, including valve inventories and pacemaker and implantable defibrillator assistance?			
Are perioperative staff members in sync with imaging teams for both orthopedic and cardiac imaging-assisted procedures?			
Is equipment current and staff members trained for tourniquet usage, bone cement, and blood transfusions?			
Are preference cards current for both cardiac and orthopedic services?			
Are communications optimal between nursing and surgeon team members in these specialties?			
Do you ensure that a complaint is filed on a returned product which is immediately replaced during a procedure?			

INFECTION PREVENTION/ BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
Does the facility have an infection surveillance process in place?			
Does the facility conduct risk assessments to identify infection-susceptible patients?			
Does the facility have clear policies and procedures for prep solutions?			
Does the facility follow AORN guidelines for terminal cleaning?			
Per AORN's Guidelines, does the facility prohibit home-laundering scrubs?			
What is the facility's policy related to external OR personnel wearing scrubs from a different facility?			
And if it is prohibited, how is the policy enforced?			
Does the facility track and meet SCIP requirements for antimicrobial prophylaxis?			

INFECTION PREVENTION/ BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
Does the facility have clear policies related to (steam sterilization for immediate use "flash sterilization"), and where is "high level disinfection" appropriate or inappropriate?			
Are wrapped sterile trays inspected to ensure integrity?			
Are traffic patterns controlled within the OR areas to minimize air flow toward the operative site?			
Do perioperative staff members maintain good aseptic technique?			
Do perioperative staff members wear protective equipment to reduce the risk of staff members becoming contaminated by bloodborne pathogens?			
Do staff members at the surgical site double-glove to reduce the likelihood of needle stick and other sharps injuries?			

<b>DOCUMENTATION/ ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS</b>	<b>Answered satisfactorily?</b>	<b>Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Does the facility use an EMR that is integrated throughout the facility?			
Does the EMR include a nursing documentation system within the perioperative area?			
Are staff members well-versed in EMR usage?			
Does the nursing documentation system incorporate a consistent nursing language and standardized values?			
Does the documentation system generate reports as required by CMS and other agencies?			
Does the documentation system generate reports that assist in process improvement and improved outcomes?			
Do the staff meet frequently to review workflows based on the nursing documentation?			

<b>SPECIALTY POPULATIONS</b>	<b>Answered satisfactorily?</b>	<b>Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Are there clear policies and procedures in place and is the appropriate equipment available for lifting and positioning patients undergoing bariatric procedures?			
Are staff members well-versed on the various approaches to bariatric procedures?			
What special precautions are taken for older patients?			
Are the required equipment and supplies available for infant, school-aged, and adolescent patients?			
What special precautions and procedures apply to older patients?			
Is special padding available for positioning older patients?			
Regardless of the patient's demographics, are staff members well-versed in meeting the emotional needs of patients and their family members and/or care givers?			

<b>SAFETY - PATIENTS AND STAFF</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
Are staff members well-trained in performing "counts" and does the facility enlist the use of adjunct technologies to reduce the likelihood of retained surgical items?			
Are staff members vigilant about positioning, repositioning and padding for patients who are susceptible to pressure ulcers?			
Do staff members conduct a pressure risk assessment on all patients?			
Are policies and procedures in place to ensure blood compatibility for blood transfusions?			
Is the universal protocol implemented?			
Are checklists used to reduce the likelihood (and ultimately eliminate) wrong site or wrong patient errors?			
Are steps taken to reduce smoke in the surgical environment?			

<b>SAFETY - PATIENTS AND STAFF</b>	Answered satisfactorily?	Does the answer raise other questions (yes or no). If yes, what questions?	Comments
What equipment and devices are used to protect staff members from bloodborne pathogens and ergonomic injuries?			
What steps have been taken to establish a "culture of safety"?			