Review **OR-specific safety procedures**, as addressed in CMS regulations, Never Events, and AORN standards, including:

- Count, sponge and needle, timing of counts; Separate X-ray detectable sponges count with circulator
- Fire safety, including equipment and substances that increase risk of fire and procedures to limit risk of fire, wet drapes around surgical site in laser procedure
- Surgical drape fire – first douse the fire with sterile saline or sterile water
- Patient identifiers
- Medication verification, delivering medications to the sterile field; verify when relieving scrub nurse
- Personal protective equipment, including thyroid shield
- Sharps safety, use of blunt needles; safe zone, passing knife in container
- **Time Out** – verifying patient, procedure, site
- Verify surgical site with the patient, consent, surgeon, X-rays

Review **sterile technique**, including:

- Contamination – strike-through; exogenous
- Distance around sterile field considered sterile
- Draping, reducing contamination
- Flash sterilization, 10 minutes for porous handle or lumen; only in emergency
- Fresh mask when beginning each case
- Gown and glove from clean surface
- Hand scrub: timed, brush stroke
- Action when indicator does not indicate sterility
- Passing behind the back of personnel = unacceptable
- Reglove when hole in outside glove discovered
- Surgical attire and sterile portion of gown
- Sterile sleeve for surgeon who bumps elbow on unsterile area
- Sterile solutions, never recap
- Obtain fresh item if peel pack rips when opening
- Opening a sterile item
- Violations of sterile technique

Review correct **surgical technique**, including:

- Blade used only for initial incision
- Draping a Mayo stand
- Passing a knife, safe zone
- Specimen, verify name with surgeon and write it down
- Wipe instruments between uses
Review frequently used **supplies and equipment**, including:

- Blade for initial incision
- Blunt needles, to improve safety for scrubbed personnel
- Cautery
- CO₂ laser
- Drapes
- Electrosurgical unit (ESU)
- Fiberoptic light cable
- Prep solutions: alcohol-based, chlorhexidine gluconate, povidone iodine, triclosan,
- Sterile sleeve
- Surgical attire
- Thyroid shield

Review **infection prevention precautions**, including:

- Handwashing with C. diff
- OR attire to reduce shedding and contamination of sterile field
- Handling drapes as little as possible
- Scrub technique, handwashing: hand scrub, brush stroke

Review the role of the **Surgical Technologist**, including:

- Ensuring correct count, shared with circulator
- Verifying patient, procedure, and site

Review **surgical procedures**, including:

- Cholecystectomy
- Colon resection
- Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG)
- Ear, nose, and throat surgery
- Femoral-popliteal bypass
- Fluoroscopic procedure
- Gynecologic surgery
- Laparoscopic assisted vaginal hysterectomy, two sterile fields
- Laparoscopic surgery

Review **documentation** requirements, including:

- Write name of specimen
Review principles of communication and patient teaching, including:

- Importance of clear communication with patients and families