Global Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released new guidelines [1] for reducing health care associated infections related to surgery. The new guidelines include 29 concrete recommendations distilled by 20 of the world’s leading experts from 26 reviews of the latest evidence. The recommendations are designed to address the increasing burden of health care associated infections on both patients and health care systems globally. The guidelines include 13 recommendations for the period before surgery, and 16 for preventing infections during and after surgery. They range from simple precautions such as ensuring that patients bathe or shower before surgery and the best way for surgical teams to clean their hands, to guidance on when to use antibiotics to prevent infections, what disinfectants to use before incision, and which sutures to use.

Click here to download the WHO’s Global guidelines on the prevention of surgical site infection [2].

Patient Safety [3]
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