

A comparative effectiveness analysis of the implementation of surgical safety checklists in a tertiary care hospital.

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The surgical safety [checklist](#) has generally been evaluated based on outcomes that occur within 30 days of the primary operation. For instance, the [initial studies](#) by the World Health Organization showed remarkable improvements in mortality and morbidity within 30 days, while a more recent retrospective [study](#) following mandated implementation of the checklist throughout Ontario failed to show any enhanced safety outcomes over this same interval. This current study evaluated the introduction of a surgical safety checklist at a single academic Italian hospital, measuring 90-day all-cause mortality, length of stay, and 30-day readmission rates, in addition to 30-day mortality rates. The study included approximately 10,000 patients undergoing noncardiac surgery, with about half in the preintervention and postintervention groups. Following checklist implementation, 90-day mortality significantly decreased, 30-day all-cause mortality was unchanged, and adjusted length of stay dropped from 10.4 to 9.6 days; no difference was found in readmission rates. A recent [PSNet interview](#) with Dr. Lucian Leape explored the conflicting findings of the efficacy of surgical safety checklists.