

## **Mortality trends after a voluntary checklist-based surgical safety collaborative.**

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Haynes AB, Edmondson L, Lipsitz S, et al. Mortality Trends After a Voluntary Checklist-based Surgical Safety Collaborative. *Ann Surg.* 2017;266(6):923-929. doi:10.1097/SLA.0000000000002249.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/mortality-trends-after-voluntary-checklist-based-surgical-safety-collaborative>

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[Checklists](#) have been shown to reduce surgical morbidity and mortality in [randomized trials](#), but results of [implementation](#) in clinical settings have been mixed. This study reports on a voluntary, statewide collaborative program to implement a [surgical safety checklist](#) in South Carolina hospitals. Participating sites undertook a [multifaceted process](#) to support checklist implementation and culture change. Cross-institutional educational activities were available to all hospitals in the collaborative. Investigators determined that rates of surgical complications declined significantly in hospitals involved in the collaborative compared with those that did not participate, which had no change in postsurgical mortality over the same time frame. Past PSNet interviews with [Lucian Leape](#) and [David Urbach](#) discussed their perspectives on surgical safety checklists.