

Impact of staff turnover during cardiac surgical procedures.

February 12, 2020

Bloom JP, Moonsamy P, Gartland RM, et al. Impact of staff turnover during cardiac surgical procedures. J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg. 2019. doi:10.1016/j.jtcvs.2019.11.051.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/impact-staff-turnover-during-cardiac-surgical-procedures>

This study examined whether increased team turnover raises the likelihood of [sharp count errors](#) by surgical teams and negatively affects patient outcomes. Analyses of all cardiac operations performed at Massachusetts General Hospital over a 5-year period revealed that sharp count errors were associated with higher rates of in-hospital mortality and were more prevalent with increased team turnover and on weekends. A prior [Web M&M commentary](#) discusses adverse outcomes arising due a retained foreign object during cardiac surgery.