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PATIENT SAFETY NETWORK

A contemporary analysis of closed claims related to wrong site surgery.

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Tan J, Ross JM, Wright D, et al. A contemporary analysis of closed claims related to wrong site surgery. Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf. 2023;49(5):265-273. doi:10.1016/j.jcjq.2023.02.002.
https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/contemporary-analysis-closed-claims-related-wrong-site-surgery

Wrong-site surgery is considered a never event and can lead to serious patient harm. This analysis of closed medical malpractice claims on wrong-site surgery between 2013 and 2020 concluded that the risk of wrong-site surgery increases with spinal surgeries (e.g., spinal fusion, excision of intervertebral discs). The primary contributing factors to wrong-site surgery was failure to follow policy or protocols (such as failure to follow the Universal Protocol) and failure to review medical records.