

Deficiencies in Facility Leaders' Response to Critical Surgical Events at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, Texas.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/deficiencies-facility-leaders-response-critical-surgical-events-michael-e-debakey-va-medical>

[Wrong-site surgery](#) and unintentionally retained surgical items are considered [never events](#). This report details five wrong-site surgeries and three instances of retained surgical items at one VA medical center between 2018 and 2022. The findings suggest that timely investigation into events from 2018-2021 may have prevented three incidents in 2022. Additionally, the medical center failed to fully [report](#) the provider responsible for three of the wrong-site surgeries.