



Safety Checklist (surgical patient security system)

As a patient, you want to be able to rely on a safe patient care system. You will soon be admitted for an operation.

This may be a drastic event for you. As the nursing and medical staff of the University Hospital of Maastricht, we do everything in our power to offer you the best possible care.

The same questions are necessary

At various moments during your admittance, the doctors and nurses will ask you different questions based on a questionnaire, the Safety Checklist.

These questions are necessary to check if all of the medical information about you is available.

These are frequently recurring questions. Repeating the questions may give the impression that we are not sure.

This repetition, however, is meant so that we can be absolutely sure that we can treat and care for you properly and to ensure this.

Especially when you are transferred from one ward to another, for example from the nursing ward to the operating theatre, it is important that doctors and nurses have the necessary information about your operation/care.

You are, therefore, asked several times for your name, date of birth, which operation is to be carried out and possibly on which side of the body (left or right).

Stopping moments

The Safety Checklist also describes consequences. These are the stopping moments.

If a doctor or nurse, based on the Safety Checklist, notices that something is not right your operation may in the worst case be postponed or cancelled.

This is, of course, inconvenient for you, but absolutely necessary for your safety.

This list is used by many hospitals around the world.

Checking and double checking reduces the risk of making easily preventable mistakes.

We ask for your understanding concerning this procedure. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask your attending physician or nurse.