


Perioperative Count Record- Reference Guide

The Perioperative Count Record - Reference Guide was developed to support Queensland Health clinicians to complete the statewide count record. Some sections of the form are facility dependent (subject to local work practice and requirements).



Queensland Government

Perioperative Count Record

Date: 1 / 4 / 24 Count record: 1 of 1

Facility: Somewhere Hospital

PACU Bay: 12

(Affix identification label here)

URN: **DRAFT - NOT FOR USE**

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Date of birth: Sex: M F I

Operative procedure(s) performed: Procedure written in full

No count required

Throat Packs N/A OR Quantity: _____ Time inserted (24hr): _____ Time removed (24hr): _____

- Record PACU Bay number to facilitate transfer of patient (if applicable).
- Procedure performed to be written in full (no +/-) and if applicable include side - left or right.
- Select 'No count required' for relevant procedures (i.e. manipulation under anaesthetic)
- If a throat pack is used, record time inserted and removed.

Accountable items	Initial count	Progressive count				Count	Progressive count				Count	Progressive count				Final count
		Changeover:	Y	N			Changeover:	Y	N			Changeover:	Y	N		
Prep swabs	5					5					5					5
Raytec	10	5	15			13*					15					15
Sponges	10	10	20	5	25	25					25					23*
Blades	2	1	3			3					3					3
Atraumatic needles	3	2	5	4	9	9	3	12	4	16	1	17	17	2	19	19
Diathermy tips	1					1					1					1
Hypodermic needles	2					2					2					2
Hypodermic sheaths	0					0					0					0
Scratch pad	1					1					1					1
Vessel loops	2					2					2					2
Peanuts	5					5					5					5

In line with the ACORN Standards, a progressive counting technique is utilised.

Record only the items that can be visualised at time of count. Any further additions should be recorded as a running total of the aseptic field.

Intentionally retained items are reflected on the surgical count and recorded in detail on p.2.

- Select Y or N to record if changeover count is performed.
- Disposed hypodermic sheaths from the aseptic field are recorded as zero.
- Record diathermy scratchie and/or antifog for minimally invasive surgery in the scratch pad field.
- Additional accountable items are handwritten in the blank rows provided.

Single instruments																
Self-retainer	2					2					2					2
Debakey Forceps	1					1					1					1
Initials	ES					ES					ES					ES

Handwrite single instruments that are opened separately.

Circulating nurse to initial at completion of each count.

As per ACORN Standards, instruments shall be counted and documented against the instrument tray list.			
Instrument Trays	Correct at case completion	Instrument Trays	Correct at case completion
Major general tray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance
Major general extras tray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance
Balfour retractor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance

- In line with the ACORN Standards “Instruments shall be counted and documented, by their individual names, against the instrument tray list”¹.
- Record instrument trays utilised intraoperatively and confirm correct at completion of surgery.

Accountable Items Intentionally Retained					
Item	Site/cavity	Quantity	Date removed	Print name	Signature
Sponge	Abdomen	2 / /		

- Accountable items that have been intentionally retained and identified on p.1 are recorded in this section for future reconciliation when removed from the patient.

Count Verification			
Accountable items count correct?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance	Single instruments count correct?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance
Instrument/loan/consignment trays count correct?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance	Proceduralist notified of count outcome?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance
RiskMan:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Count discrepancy, x-ray taken:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Variance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Reviewed by (print name):	
Variance: <i>2x raytec insitu at time of changeover count and unable to visualised- reconciled at cavity count.</i>			

- When there is a count discrepancy and an x-ray is performed, record the details and the person that reviewed the x-ray results.
- Complete variance section to handwrite any variances identified throughout the count record.

Role	Print name	Designation	Signature	Initials
Instrument Nurse 1	Jane Doe	RN		JD
Instrument Nurse 2				
Circulating Nurse 1	Emily Smith	RN		ES
Circulating Nurse 2				
Relief Nurse				
Changeover Instrument Nurse	Ken Adams	RN		KA
Changeover Circulating Nurse				

- Record all intraoperative staff involved in the perioperative count against their respective role, including signature.
- Complete Surginet/ORMIS record to identify the time that staff were in the operating room.

References

1. Australian College of Perioperative Nurses Ltd (ACORN). *The New ACORN Standards: Volume 3- 2023 Standards for Safe and Quality Care in the Perioperative Environment (SSQCPE) for Organizations*. Adelaide, South Australia: ACORN; 2023.