5 Minute Flashcards Card 2 Speaking up for Safety



What's this all about?



Who in the team has an example of when they might need to speak up for safety?



What are the barriers to speaking up?

And how can we minimise these barriers?



Give it a go...

- Anaesthetist: you think the surgeon has inadvertently touched a non-sterile part of the operating light
- 2) ODP: you think the anaesthetist has forgotten to do the 'Stop before you block'
- 3) Circulating nurse: you think the team has forgotten to do a WHO sign-out

How can you raise concerns? Have you heard of PACE?



PROBE ALERT CHALLENGE EMERGENCY

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NHS Foundation Trust

What's this all about?

Speaking up when you have concerns is important for patient safety – especially as patients in theatre often can't speak for themselves Speaking up is a key feature of effective teams Risks to patients can be identified by any member of the theatre team – speaking up is everyone's responsibility Speaking up often requires courage: don't dismiss someone else's concerns!



Who in the team has an example?...

Invite examples from team members



What are the barriers?

There are *lots* of barriers. Examples include:

- Being new to the theatre team
- Not knowing the people/ equipment
- Being unsure of who to talk to about a concern
- Being worried the concern might not be important enough
- Hierarchy within the team
- Being worried about a hostile response

How can we minimise these barriers?

- Knowing each others' names makes a big difference... the theatre name board or name-badges can help
- Treat each other with respect and kindness
- Practice!

PACE is a model that helps people raise concerns. It stands for:

Probe: ask a probing question or state an observation e.g. "Is the swab count correct?"

Alert: alert the person/ team e.g. "I am concerned that we have miscounted the swabs." Challenge: include what you think needs to be done e.g. "I think the swab count was incorrect, we need to do it again."

Emergency: take over *or* get help from outside/ someone else

> PROBE ALERT CHALLENGE **EMERGENCY**