

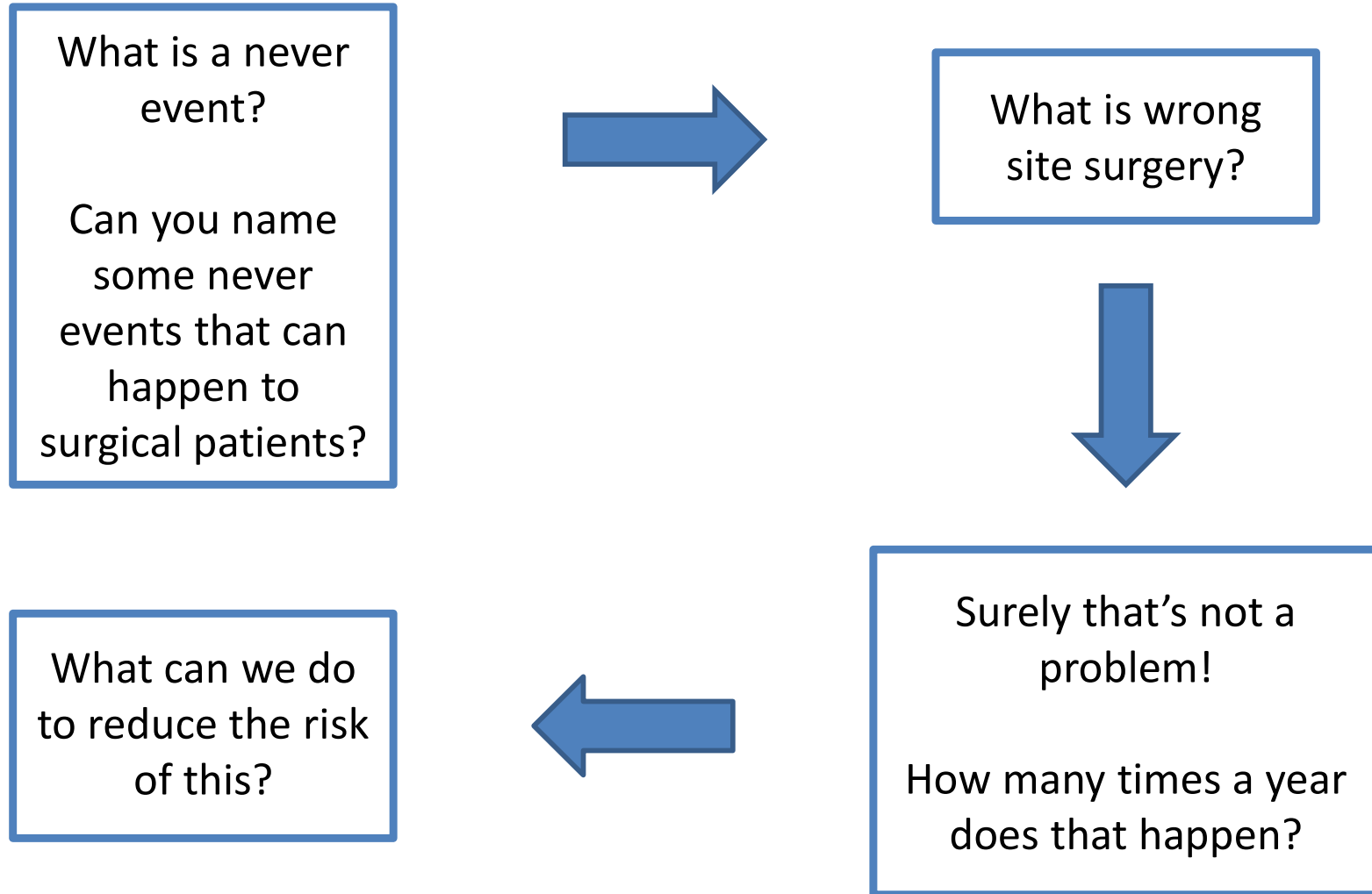
5 Minute Flashcards

Card 6: Never Events and Wrong Site Surgery



Gloucestershire Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust



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Card 6: Never Events and Wrong Site Surgery

What is a never event?

An error in medicine that should never occur. This includes:

- Wrong site surgery
- Wrong implant/prosthesis
- Retained foreign object post procedure
- Transfusion or transplantation of ABO incompatible blood components or organs
- Misplaced naso- or oro-gastric tubes
- Chest or neck entrapment in bed rails
- Scalding of patients



What is wrong site surgery?

- Surgery on the wrong side of the body (wrong hip replaced/kidney removed)
- Operation that includes removal of the wrong part of the body (removal of ovaries with the uterus by mistake)



What can we do to reduce the risk of this?

- Ensure the WHO checklist is completed for every case
- All members of the team to engage with the checklist (stop *all* other tasks during it)
- Mark every patient with permanent marker that doesn't wash off with surgical scrub
- Make the arrow visible when the patient is draped
- Speak up if you have any concerns about wrong site surgery – and encourage everyone to speak up!



How often does this happen?

171 cases of wrong site surgery in 2021/22 in England

9 'Never Events' 2021/22 in this trust – that makes us the joint third worst in the country