
The OR Management Series

Materials Management in the OR

Third Edition

A compilation of articles from *OR Manager*

OR Manager

Elizabeth Wood, Editor

Judith M. Mathias, MA, RN, Clinical Editor

Cynthia Saver, MS, RN, Contributing Writer

Copyright © 2017, Access Intelligence, LLC

Materials Management in the OR

The OR Management Series

1

Foreword

Some of the articles in this third edition of *Materials Management in the OR* are based on presentations from past OR Business Management Conferences. We recently reviewed proposals for the 2018 OR Business Management Conference, and noticed that the dominant themes were better utilization, increased data transparency, and gains in efficiency—topics that you’ll find are also covered in this edition.

Year over year growth of the business management conference attests to a more engaged community of leaders who are eager to share best practices at their facilities. Their participation has, in turn, led to a more robust offering of articles in *OR Manager* that speak to improvement initiatives and significant cost savings.

In addition, a growing number of managers and clinicians have submitted articles to *OR Manager*, and readers have benefited from these first-hand accounts of “success stories” told by their peers—some of which are included in this edition.

Cost control is an ongoing concern at facilities nationwide, and as payment models increasingly emphasize value-based purchasing rather than fee for service, health-care providers must make patient satisfaction a greater priority. Reducing case delays and cancellations is one obvious way to do that.

By the same token, having the optimal number of rooms running and ensuring quick turnover times is important for en-

gaging and retaining excellent surgeons. OR leaders at some facilities have been well served by involving surgeons in room scheduling and sharing data with them. Raising cost awareness has, in many cases, led to greater standardization and willingness to use less expensive equipment and devices.

By far, the largest section of this new edition is sterile processing. This is not surprising, given the ongoing concerns about compliance with standards and regulations. Even facilities that successfully comply with recommended practices have endoscope contamination, as noted in a study reported in this edition. Other articles in this section focus on the relationships between OR and sterile processing staff as a means to improve efficiencies and safety.

Advances in technology have dramatically shortened the time needed for certain procedures, and many facilities have responded by investing in new equipment or adding service lines. Such growth in volume can be difficult to manage, and two articles in this edition provide especially valuable information: “Building a business case for new technology” and “Orthopedic service line takes health system to another level.”

These and other articles have been thoughtfully compiled to help all OR managers increase efficiencies, meet budget goals, and—through best practices—take their organizations to the next level.

Table of Contents

I. Cost Management..... 7
Preference card cleanup projected to cut costs across departments..... 9
Surgical receipt raises quality standards, lowers costs..... 11
Can converting to synthetic surgical gloves lower hospital operating room costs? 14
Surgical development teams save millions in clinical costs..... 17
Committee saves over \$1 million through cost conscious initiatives..... 20
Fine print in supply contracts often holds keys to cost savings..... 23

II. Sterile processing..... 25
Consider a sterilization subject matter expert to increase compliance 26
Arm your staff with strategies to prevent HAIs..... 29
IUSS drops to 5% with team intervention 32
Cleaning verification tests boost confidence in instrument decontamination 35
Dirty scopes persist despite cleaning protocol compliance 38
Low-temperature sterilization: A disinfection alternative 41
Proper packaging ensures integrity of sterilization 44
Combine and conquer: OR/CSPD collaboration dramatically reduces IUSS rates 47
Infection control noncompliance cited in high percentage of Joint Commission surveys..... 50
New AAMI standard for endoscope reprocessing..... 53
Creating a powerful partnership between the OR and the SPD 56
Better communication and teamwork improve sterile processing efficiency 59
Don't let faulty processing put a damper on instrument packaging 62
Infections spur new guidelines for endoscope reprocessing 65
Water: A critical ingredient for instrument cleaning and disinfection 69

III. Supply Chain/Inventory Management.....	71
Choose the right linen service to match supply with demand.....	72
ASC reaps rewards of recycling and reprocessing.....	75
Five-step process provides framework for managing supplies	78
Streamline selection and stocking to make supplies available and affordable.....	80
IV. Technology Management.....	83
Building a business case for new technology.....	84
Plan B: Managing surgical equipment failure.....	88
Process improvements raise SPD standards and quality	92
V. Value Analysis/Standardization.....	97
Orthopedic service line takes health system to another level.....	98