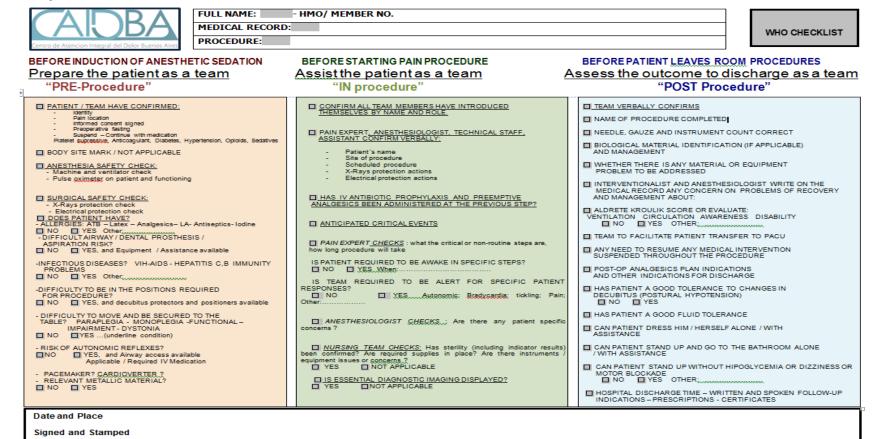
Title: Safety Surgery and Checklist: Also Needed in Interventional Pain Medicine

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Keywords: Safety and Pain, Preventing Complications, Safety Surgery and Pain. Institutional Ethics is not applicable.

Objectives: With the purpose of minimizing risk for this technique, promoting a culture of safety, increasing outcome assurance by documenting data relevant for the life of the patient, an ad-hoc *Checklist* model is proposed for Interventional Pain Medicine, taking into account that:

- 1) These are outpatient techniques;
- 2) Patients have a risk profile (elderly in many cases, co-morbidities, multiple drug administration, depression and
- There are technique-specific risks (spinal cord perfusion, brain stem, CSF, nerves, pneumothorax, hemorrhages)



Method: We have developed an ad-hoc *Checklist* model for interventional pain medicine, based on research in Medline, OVID and WHO bulletins on: a) Safe Surgery, b) WHO's Quality Concepts and Checklist, c) Outpatient Procedures, d) Pain Procedures and Safety. Also based on the Template Checklist found in www.safesurg.orf

Results: Table 1 shows the Checklist proposed, without cases. The proposal includes the 3 original points in times the steps based on safety criteria proposed by WHO must be fulfilled, 1) identify and prepare the patient, 2) assist during the specific pain procedure and 3) assess the outcome to discharge as a team.

Conclusions: A Checklist was created for Interventional Pain Medicine that may be improved but must be used, taking into account specificities as pointed out. Safety in anesthesiology and in any type of interventional technique should prioritize this type of strategy, focused on Safe Surgery, considering supporting evidence on morbidity, mortality and preventing complications. In fact, WHO's World Alliance for Patient Safety had already put forward for users an Adaptation Guide for specific cases. This prompted ad-hoc Checklists for outpatient procedures (JP Garrahan National Children's Hospital - Argentina, Kirkland's and District Hospital's Checklists for Endoscopies and Cataract Procedures (Canada), Oregon Hospital Association's Checklist (USA), among others, were gradually added to WHO's Safe Surgery webpage.