

# Development of a scale for nursing practices for the prevention of surgical site infection

## Supplement: Nursing practices for the prevention of surgical site infections (NPPSSI) scale (final version)

**Please note:** Following path analysis, the items were grouped by sub-dimension and renumbered; therefore, some items referred to by number in the discussion may not correspond to the item with that number below.

	Item	Response				
		1	2	3	4	5
Items related to asepsis-related practices	1. I follow new developments and current practices to prevent surgical site infections.					
	2. I fully comply with the principles of surgical asepsis.					
	3. I perform surgical hand washing with appropriate antiseptic agents.					
	4. I perform surgical hand washing with appropriate antiseptic agents with appropriate time and technique.					
	5. After surgical hand washing, I lift my hands up, keep them away from my body and dry them with a sterile towel.					
	6. I ensure hand hygiene before wearing sterile gloves.					
	7. I pay attention to antisepsis to prevent infection in invasive procedures.					
	8. In invasive procedures, I use antiseptic (chlorhexidine, alcohol, iodine, parachloromethaxyleneol, triclosan) applied to the skin in the form of circular movements from the inside to the outside of the incision area on the skin.					
	9. I use diluted chlorhexidine as an antiseptic agent on the skin.					
	10. I take the necessary precautions (gloves, mask, apron etc.) to prevent infection.					
	11. I wear gloves during risky procedures such as those that may involve contact with the surgical field area, blood and body fluid contamination.					
	12. During the operation, I use two layers of gloves on top of each other against glove perforation in the operating theatre.					
	13. I ensure hand hygiene when passing from patient to patient.					
	14. I ensure my hand hygiene after removing gloves.					
	15. I do not use nail paint (nail polish) in the operation theatres and wards because it may pose a risk of infection.					
	16. I do not use artificial nails in the operation theatres and wards because of the risk of infection.					
	17. I cut my nails short because long nails may pose a risk of infection in surgery and wards.					
	18. I notify the infection control committee of the personnel working in the operating theatre and surgical departments with respiratory system-related diseases.					
	19. I do not go out wearing my operating theatre clothes and uniform.					

	Item	Response				
		1	2	3	4	5
Items related to patient-related practices	20. I make sure that the instruments and materials to be applied to the patient (such as stethoscope, sphygmomanometer) are clean before each use.					
	21. I send the instruments and materials used during surgical procedures and operations to sterilisation for disinfection after each use.					
	22. I check the sets coming from the sterilisation unit – the indicators of the sets, the integrity of the package, the exposure band, the sterilisation process label.					
	23. I ensure that the sets are opened immediately before use, paying attention to the surgical aseptic technique.					
	24. I recommend the patient take a bath with antiseptic solutions (chlorhexidine) at least one day before the surgical procedure.					
	25. I believe that removing hair with a razor blade during surgical procedure or pre-operative preparation disrupts skin integrity and increases surgical site infection.					
	26. I believe that it is important to reduce the risk of infection and to have the hairs cleaned with disposable electric scissors on the day of surgery in preparation for surgical procedure or pre-operative preparation.					
	27. I inform individuals about the symptoms and signs of surgical site infection before discharge from the hospital.					
	28. I pay attention to the signs and symptoms of infection in the surgical intervention area (abscess, flushing, presence of discharge, increased body temperature and pain).					
	29. I take isolation measures appropriate to the type of microorganism grown in the culture results of the sample taken from the surgical field (droplet, respiratory contact, close contact).					
	30. I use aseptic technique when changing the surgical field dressing.					
	31. Since drains that remain for a long time increase the rate of colonisation and delay wound healing, I avoid the use of drains and make sure that the catheters used are minimal.					
	32. In order to reduce the risk of infection in the post-operative period, I ensure that insulin is not administered regularly to patients without a diagnosis of diabetes to control blood glucose in the post-operative period.					
	33. Since nicotine prolongs primary wound healing and predisposes to surgical site infection, I inform patients that smoking should be stopped at least 30 days before surgery.					

1 = 'never agree', 2 = 'rarely agree', 3 = 'sometimes agree', 4 = 'often agree', 5 = 'always agree'