

Grab and go guides improving safety in operating theatres

The theatres department at University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust has developed easy read grab and go guides for new starters / students / locums / agency.

The visually aided guides are a bullet point, step-by-step actions for each emergency procedure and are now kept in a central area in the theatres at Furness General Hospital.

Two guides which have been trialled are Malignant Hyperpyrexia and Upper GI Bleed.

The team has also taken steps to correctly sign drug storage boxes and cupboards relating to each condition and has introduced regular checks of these which has improved patient safety and saved time for staff. A MH box has been introduced which has relevant immediate drugs and equipment, contents check list and is added to a daily assurance file in recovery.



“I’m really proud of our department for striving to improve patient safety and staff knowledge and skills.”

Kirsty Withers, Theatres Manager

Next steps for the department are:

- Adding more visually aided guides to support staff and save them time
- To look at introducing this way of working in the theatres at Westmorland General Hospital and Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

“It gave me confidence throughout my training, helping my learning experience.”

**Student Operating
Department Practitioner**

You can find updates on Listening into Action at www.uhmb.nhs.uk/about-us/lia/



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University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay