

What is changing?

On August 27th, 2014, BC PSLs will offer a new specialty report form for users in all Health Authorities: the **Surgical Count Discrepancy Report Form**. Users in perioperative and similar settings should use this form to report discrepancies in the pre- and post-procedural counts of surgical instruments and supplies, including an incorrect count, an incomplete count or a situation where no count was performed.

New! Surgical Count Discrepancy Report Form icon

Why is this change being made?

Surgical miscounts, no counts, missing and retained objects are frequently reported in BC PSLs but are captured as a single, combined item in the **Clinical process and procedure** category, making reporting cumbersome, hindering data analysis and limiting learning and improvement. BC PSLs Central Office engaged local subject matter experts to develop the new form, which will be more efficient for reporters to use, enable a consistent approach to data collection and follow-up, promote better data quality and support learning and improvement.

Tip! The new form is based on the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality's (AHRQ) Common Formats for Surgery and Anesthesia and is consistent with the OR Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC) standards related to surgical counts.

What do I need to do differently?

The new **Surgical Count Discrepancy Report Form** will be available on the BC PSLs Landing Page on August 27th (end of day). The form should be used only by staff in perioperative and similar areas who perform pre- and post-procedural instrument counts and identify issues of *Incomplete count*, *Incorrect count* or *No count performed*. Note that *Retained object* is captured separately under the Clinical process and procedure category.

Where can I find more information?

Visit our website www.bcpslscentral.ca or contact the BC PSLs Coordinator at your Health Authority.

BC PSLs Central Office thanks Sharon Bisson (PHC) and perioperative nurses from across the province for their input and assistance in developing this new form.