CORESS Update – September 2020

Meetings have been held on ZOOM.

No particular cases specific to breast work. However some lessons from other cases:

Use of a new stapling device in gastrectomy, where the surgeon assumed everyone in theatre knew about this (first list after a holiday break), led to issue with the anvil used. Not mentioned in the team brief

Use of high energy devices for operating, surgeons need to be aware of the dissipation of the energy, leading to the potential to damage surrounding structure, inadvertently.

Increasing reports of patients falling off operating tables, when the position of the table is altered during a procedure

Drug issues in theatre:

Errors due to preparing anaesthetic drugs / antibiotics for multiple patients on a list

Care in checking labels on ampoules, especially plastic ones, where different drugs have same colour labels. Main issues here was diluting a drug with lignocaine rather than saline.

Consistent themes throughout many cases of lack of communication, inadequate supervision and not calling for help by juniors when dealing with unfamiliar situations/cases.

Richard Johnson

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