

Quick Guide

for Physiotherapists

Needling Safety Checklist

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What is a Needling Safety Checklist?

A checklist is a tool which outlines the key items in a patient care process that, if overlooked, could have patient safety consequences.

It is a series of safety checks, initiated at specific points within the patient's care pathway.

It has three phases: Before Needling, During Needling, and After Needling.

Experts encourage adaptation of a checklist template so that your checklist fits the local environment and also maintains some of the core elements. (1)

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Why use a Needling Safety Checklist?

We know that, although uncommon, *patient safety incidents can occur* in physiotherapy treatment.

Use of checklists in health care has been shown to have a positive impact on patient safety. (2)

Implementing a checklist will improve consistency of care and support quality clinical practice.

A checklist facilitates patient safety by ensuring that all processes related to needling safety are executed with each client, every time.

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How can PTs use a Needling Safety Checklist?

Add the checklist to your patient's chart to support documentation of safe patient care

OR

Use the checklist as a visual aid to facilitate standardization of safe patient care

Involve your assistants and other front line staff in implementing the checklist:

- Staff could review therapist contact information and follow up options with patient before they leave the facility.
- Staff could perform independent checks of PT needling practice.



Connect with us!

Email us at risk@physiotherapy.ca

¹Weiser TG, et al (2010). Perspectives in quality: designing the WHO surgical safety checklist. International Journal for Quality in Healthcare, 22(5): 365-370.

²Haynes A-B, et al (2009). A surgical safety checklist to reduce morbidity and mortality in a global population. The New England Journal of Medicine, 360(5): 491-499.



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