

The Effect of Operating Room Distractions on Total Surgical Time

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PICOT Question

In surgical patients, what is the effect of surgical room distractions on total surgery time compared with the absence of distractions?

Literature Search

Database utilization

- NCBI
- PubMed
- Google Scholar
- ScienceDirect
- CINAHL

Search terms

- Perioperative
- Surgical count
- Operating room distractions
- Patient safety

Article selection criteria

- Peer-reviewed articles
- Published 2016-2021

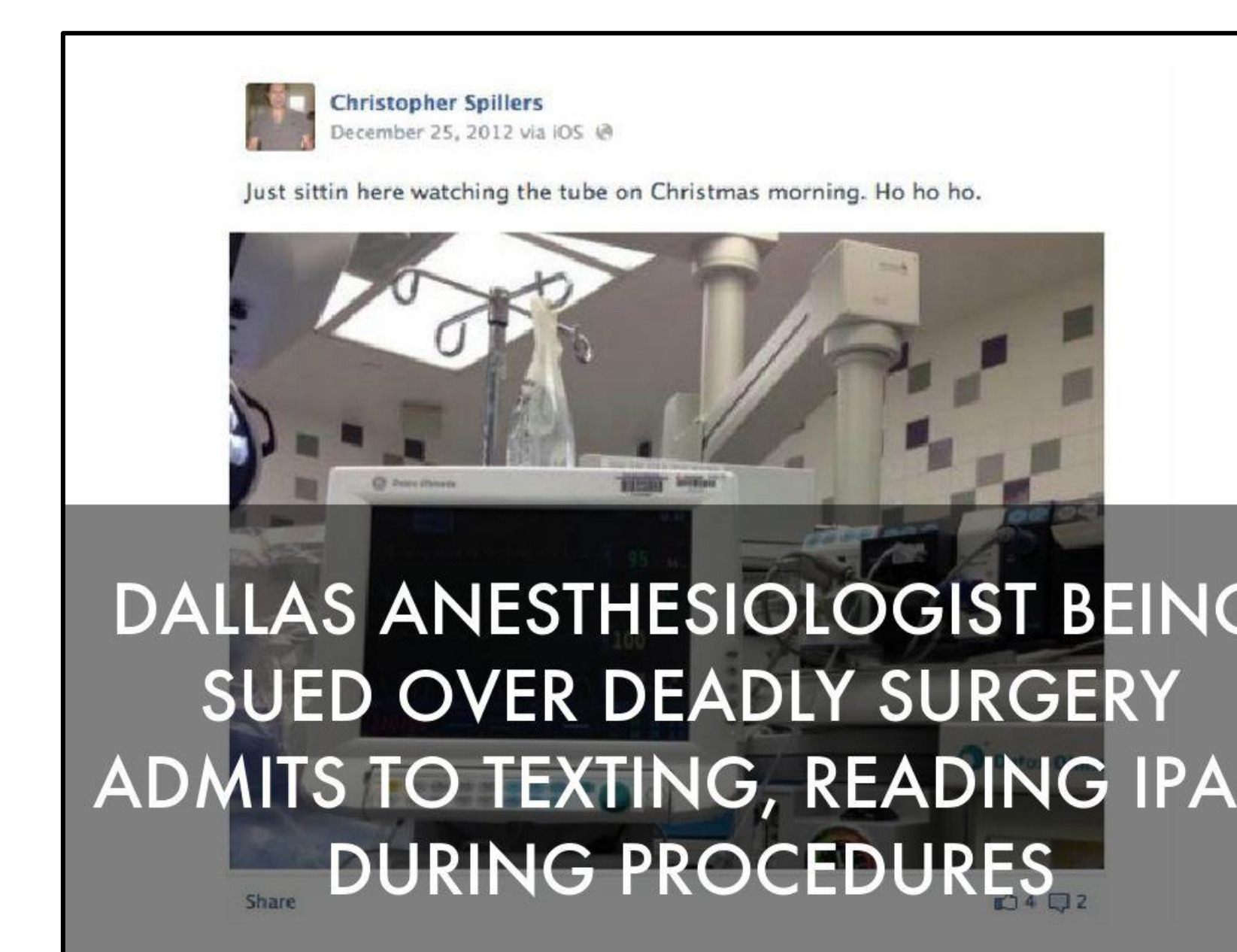
Synthesis of Findings

- Distractions and lack of communication often cause surgeons to make unsafe decisions and not complete checks and tasks, which may interfere with and impact patient safety (Mackenzie & Foran, 2020; Murji et al., 2016; Srivastava et al., 2021)
- Of 150 surgical count observations, a total of 1,356 distractions and interruptions occurred, which contributed to interruptions in surgical count. (Bubrick et al., 2019; Kertesz et al., 2020)
- Distractions and interruptions may prolong surgeries which may cause adverse patient outcomes and increase overall cost (Jung et al., 2019; Mackenzie & Foran, 2020; Murji et al., 2016)
- The use of pagers and phones in the OR occurred 1.9-7 times per case causing distractions during surgery (Jung et al., 2019; Murji et al., 2016; Kertesz et al., 2020; van Harten et al., 2020)
- People entering or exiting the operating room is cited as a common source of interruptions or distractions (Jung et al., 2019; Mackenzie et al., 2020; Kertesz et al., 2020; van Harten et al., 2020)

Decision to Change Practice

- Restrict all personal cell phones and place all personal electronic devices in a cell phone box located outside the operating room. Names will be verified on checklist. Official phone calls and pagers will be routed through circulating nurse's desk.
- Operating room access list will be maintained by circulating nurse. Anyone wishing to attend the case must check in with the circulating nurse.

Figure 1
Deadly Distractions



Evaluation

- Reduce OR case completion times by 10%
- Analyze 2-months of case data

References

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