



Madonna Nowak, RN

Operating Room (OR)
Phoenixville Hospital

Recognized for her dedication to patient safety
by the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority

I AM

Patient Safety

Madonna Nowak is committed to patient safety at Phoenixville Hospital.

A patient who sustained a broken hip was admitted to the hospital for surgery. During preoperative testing, the patient was found to have a positive blood culture, which was reported directly to the ordering physician. At the same time, the patient was transported to the preoperative holding area and assessed by the surgeon and anesthesiologist. Upon completing patient identification, consent, and other assessments per hospital policy, the patient was moved to the OR suite to be prepared for surgery.

Madonna, the circulating nurse that day, reviewed the patient's medical record data and discovered the positive blood culture results. Recognizing the clinical significance and potential patient safety issue, she immediately notified the surgeon. He had not been notified of the positive blood culture results. The surgery was postponed until the patient received treatment for the infection.

Join the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority in congratulating Madonna Nowak for following up with her own assessment and advocating for the patient at Phoenixville Hospital.



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