



## BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE 8 Ways To Help Improve Efficiency and Reduce Cost<sup>1,2</sup>



### Practice proven supply management procedures

1. Investigate hospital OR inventory at each location it is stored and compare the findings to a 3-5 year usage report.
2. Add or eliminate any supplies not found in the inventory usage report. Store supplies in one main location.
3. Observe case picking for different specialties to map out optimal locations to store bulk items.
4. Utilize patient centered storage (i.e., storage cabinets in OR suites)
5. Consider using a data capture technology that communicates with the EMR to keep track of inventory levels and preference card patterns.
6. Inform clinical staff and physicians about the cost of items and procedures to eliminate waste and improve cost saving measures.
7. Designate a specific team member/coordinator to update preference cards as time allows.
8. Be proactive in reviewing the surgery schedule to avoid cancellations or delays in materials.



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**Reference: 1.** Ahmadi, Ehsan et al. "Inventory management of surgical supplies and sterile instruments in hospitals: a literature review." Health systems (Basingstoke, England) vol. 8,2 134-151. 18 Jul. 2018, doi:10.1080/20476965.2018.1496875. **2.** "Operating Room Supply Chain: Want or Efficiency? Learn to Find Best Locations for Supplies." Hospital News, Hospital News Newspaper, 26 Aug. 2015, <https://hospitalnews.com/operating-room-supply-chain-want-or-efficiency-learn-to-find-the-absolute-best-locations-for-supplies/>.