Tips from the Experts
Post-Operative Checklist after Frame Application

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The views and opinions expressed in this section are those of the surgeon.

Introduction

Often, after finishing the surgical portion of a Spatial Frame application, the surgeon may be tired, sweaty, hungry and mentally ready to be finished with the case. Unfortunately, there are still multiple steps required to properly finish the frame application and bring the case to a successful completion. Rather than trying to remember all of these steps each time, we developed a checklist to help make the process smoother and more efficient. There are often multiple simultaneous events happening at the end of a case and it is possible to forget something. Using a checklist is at the end of the case is helpful to track the workflow.

Frame

- Final tightening of all connections
- Torque Limited wrench of all 12 Shoulder Bolts
- Check ID Bands & Caps have been applied to Struts
- Check and record initial Strut settings
- Capture and record Mounting Parameters
- Cut Half Pins with bolt cutter

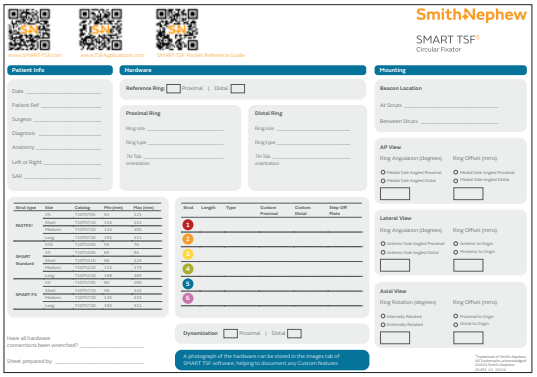
Dressings

- Incisions – preferred closure and dressing
- Pin Sites – consider antimicrobial dressing soaked in saline, under ILIZAROV™ sponges soaked in half-strength antiseptic solution
- Pin Wire Stoppers to secure the sponges
- Pin Caps for cut half pins
- Clean surface blood off the frame

Additional Suggestions

- Take photo of the full construct
- Take close-up photo of non-default hardware such as custom Strut mount or Step-off Plates
- Take photo of the Beacon position in relation to Struts
- All photos can be stored under IMAGES in SMART TSF◊ software
- Record any changes to the pre-op plan
- Release skin tension around pins/wires

Scan the QR code or click this link to access the SMART TSF OR Record Sheet



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