DISTRACTIONS IN THE OPERATING ROOM: A SURVEY OF THE HEALTHCARE TEAM

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BACKGROUND

Distractions during surgical procedures are associated with team inefficiency and medical errors.

Little is published about the healthcare provider's perception of distraction and its adverse impact in the operating room.

AIM

We aim to explore operating room teal perceptions of the impact of different types of distractions during surgical procedures.

METHODS

An online 26-question survey

- Explored 5 categories with multiple potential distractors.
- Surgeons, anesthesiologists, anesthetist, nurses, and scrub technicians at BIDMC.

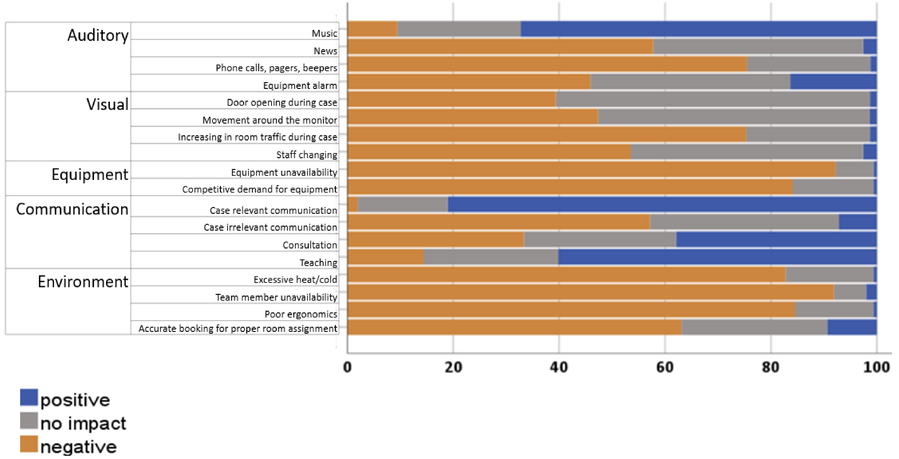
Participants were asked to

- Identify and rank multiple potential distractors.
- Evaluate how distraction impact on the flow of the surgery.

RANKING OF THE MOST DISTRACTING CATEGORY DURING CRITICAL PARTS OF THE WORK

	Total N= 160	Male N= 71	Female N= 82	Surgery N= 48	Anesthesia Providers N= 55	OR staff N= 53	<10 years N= 96	>10 years N= 64
Auditory (ranking) (n, %)	1 (67, 41.6)	1 (30, 42.3)	1 (36, 43.9)	1 (20, 41.7)	1 (33, 55.9)	1 (14, 26.4)	1 (41, 42.7)	1 (26, 40.6)
Visual (ranking) (n, %)	5 (9, 5.6)	5 (4, 5.6)	5 (5, 6.1)	4 (3, 6.3)	5 (1, 1.17)	5 (5, 9.4)	5 (8, 8.3)	5 (1, 1.6)
Communication (ranking) (n, %)	4 (16, 9.9)	3 (8, 11.3)	4 (7, 8.5)	3 (6, 12.5)	4 (3, 5.1)	4 (7, 13.2)	4 (10, 10.4)	3 (6, 9.4)
Equipment (ranking) (n, %)	2 (34, 21.1)	2 (15, 21.1)	2 (18, 22)	2 (13, 27.1)	2 (8, 13.6)	2 (13, 24.5)	2 (15, 15.6)	2 (19, 29.7)
Environment (ranking) (n, %)	3 (19, 11.8)	3 (8, 11.3)	3 (11, 13.4)	4 (3, 6.3)	2 (8, 13.6)	3 (8, 15.1)	3 (14, 14.6)	4 (5, 7.8)

IMPACT ON THE FLOW OF SURGERY



SUMMARY

First survey studying perception of the healthcare team on various distractions in the operating room.

Auditory is the most distracting category during critical parts of the work.

The top 5 distractors relate to equipment and environment categories.

Distractors rated with the most bothersome appear to associate with negative impact on the flow of surgery.

Fewer unnecessary distractions might improve the flow of surgery.

CONCLUSION

Some distractions are more bothersome and might adversely affect operation

REFERENCE

Helena M Mentis, Amine Chellali, Kelly Manser, et al. A systemic review of the effect of the distraction on surgeon performance: directions for operating room policy and surgical training. *Surg Endosc* 2006; 30(5):1713- 1724.