Dear Editor,

We would very much like to submit this manuscript to BMC Health Services Research. We have performed a qualitative study regarding nurse anaesthetists- and operating room nurses’ adherence to the WHO’s Surgical Safety Checklist. Use of this checklist in surgery has been shown in studies to reduce both morbidity and mortality, without illuminating the mechanism behind the positive results. This study provides a grounded theory for how nurses adhere to the checklist and the surgical team, enhancing more knowledge of surgical teams and checklists.

As the BMC Health Services Research focus on all aspects of health services research, we believe that this paper, which provides insight to factors- and barriers preventing intentional use of the Safe Surgical Checklist, will meet the criteria for publishing in this journal. Since the BMC Health Services Research is an open access journal, the results of this study will be available to health workers independent of professional background. University of Bergen is a support member of the Open Access Membership and one of the authors are also employed at this university. According to your editorial politics, the authors confirm that this manuscript has not been considered for publication elsewhere and all writers have read and agreed to its content.

Kind regards

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