

**Anne Jenkins**  
**Staff Nurse (in theatre)**

“I am the theatre sister in theatre 4, and I work with Mr Black every Tuesday for his usual theatre session. We have done loads of lap nephrectomies without a hitch before. Usually he is so careful.

Working in his theatre is usually a pleasure rather than a chore. He’s not like the other consultants. He actually treats nurses like people. A lot of the other surgeons are really arrogant, and think they can get away with shouting and throwing things. Mr Black isn’t like that – he is good at training and he’s patient with the scrub nurses.

He is also one of the better surgeons for engaging with the SPSP stuff. He is always there for the pause and always does a good briefing before the operation, whereas most of the surgeons either just don’t bother or send their junior to do it.

Lorraine, our theatre coordinator, speaks very highly of him. She is constantly trying to improve the safety climate in theatres, driving everyone to engage better with the checklist and stuff – but I know she struggles as she gets no support from the management, all they seem to care about is targets and breachers.”

Notes:

- **SPSP** is the Scottish Patient Safety Programme, a national quality improvement programme that aims to improve the safety and reliability of care and reduce harm in a variety of care settings.
- A **theatre coordinator** manages and oversees the activities within the surgical theatres (operating rooms), ensuring efficient scheduling, staff allocation, and patient flow. They uphold safety and quality standards, maintain communication between teams, and resolve issues swiftly, facilitating smooth and effective surgical procedures.