



**Costs associated with extended stays due to surgical site infection reduced by 11% in facilities with Certified Surgical Technologists.**

Data from Virginia demonstrates the cost of medical care related to extended hospital stays occasioned by a surgical site infection. The data are not specific to surgical site infections directly caused by a surgical technologist (uncertified or otherwise), but the data reveal that facilities utilizing only credentialed personnel as surgical technologists (who are the practitioners primarily responsible for maintaining the sterile field and preventing breaks in aseptic technique) reduced by 11% the costs associated with extended stays due to surgical site infection.

Source: vaprincepoint.org, January 2007 - September 2007

	<u>Hospitals that require Certified Surgical Technologists</u> (10 hospitals*)	<u>Hospitals that do not require certification</u> (37 hospitals*)	<u>Both groups of hospitals</u> (47 hospitals*)
Average Number of Discharges for Post-traumatic and Post-operative Infection:	25.9	27.6	27.26
Average Length of Stay (days):	4.79	5.25	5.15
Average Charge Per Patient Stay:	\$14,712	\$17,118	\$16,606
Average Charge Per Day:	\$2,849	\$3,234	\$3,152
Median Charge Per Patient Stay	\$10,677	\$13,341	\$12,774

\*Only hospitals that hire surgical technologists are included.