

□ Surgical Site

The **surgical site** refers to the specific anatomical location on the patient's body where a **surgical incision or procedure** is performed.

□ Components of the Surgical Site

- **Skin and subcutaneous tissue** at the incision area
- **Deep soft tissue layers**, including fascia and muscle
- **Organs or anatomical structures** manipulated or exposed during surgery

□ Classification in Infection Control

According to CDC guidelines, surgical sites are classified when monitoring for **surgical site infections (SSIs)**:

- **Superficial incisional SSI** → involves skin/subcutaneous tissue
- **Deep incisional SSI** → involves deeper soft tissues (fascia, muscle)
- **Organ/space SSI** → involves any organ or cavity manipulated during surgery

□ Importance in Neurosurgery

In neurosurgical procedures, the surgical site may include:

- **Scalp and skull** (craniotomy/craniectomy)
- **Dura mater**
- **Brain, spinal cord or nerve roots**
- **Spinal elements** (lamina, disc, vertebrae)

Proper **identification, antisepsis, and isolation** of the surgical site is critical to:

- Prevent infections
- Ensure adequate exposure
- Improve postoperative outcomes

Surgical Site Infection

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Last update: **2025/06/03 09:09**

