



in used surgical instruments

Satoshi MURAKOSHI ^{1) 2)}, Yuhei SAITO ¹⁾, Mitsuaki MUROYA ¹⁾,
Yushi UETERA ¹⁾, Kazuhiko FUKATSU ^{1) 2)}

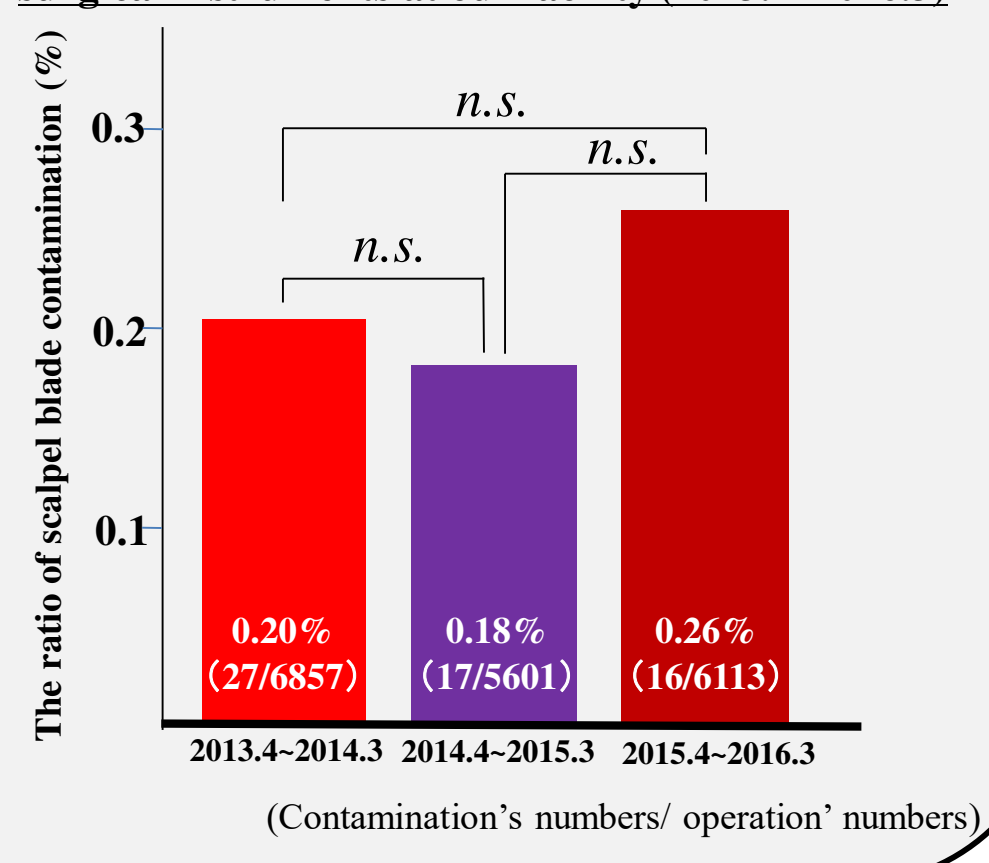
¹ Surgical Center, The University of Tokyo Hospital, Tokyo,
² Supply Center, The University of Tokyo Hospital, Tokyo, Japan

Introduction

Reusable surgical instruments are cleaned after use.

The contamination of the scalpel blade used in the operation into a used instrument may lead to injury of the cleaning staff.

The frequency of scalpel blade contamination in used surgical instruments at our facility (2013.4~2016.3)



Purpose

To examine whether changing the postoperative surgical instruments counting procedure by nurses would be useful in reducing the contamination of scalpel blade into used instruments.

Conclusions

When the scalpel blade is discarded after the operation, the revisions of manual (Adoption of double check, change of work shift) prevent the scalpel blade from being mixed into the used surgical instruments.

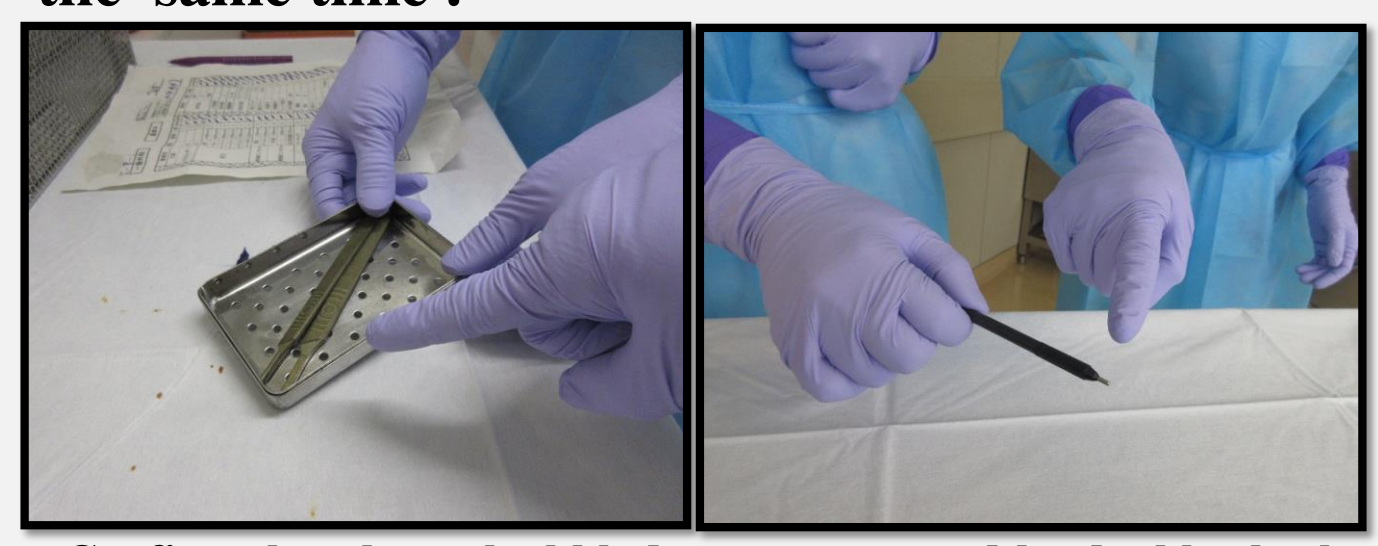
It may be useful for medical safety because it contributes to reducing cleaning staff injury.

Methods

- From April 2017 to March 2018, a total of 6,487 operations were analyzed.
- The study period were divided into the first half (the first 6 months, 3291 cases) and the second half (the following 6 months, 3196 cases).
- Regarding the disposal of the scalpel blade after surgery, in the first half, it was done by the scrub nurse alone.
- In the second half, the procedure were revised as follows .

1. Adoption of double check:

It was done by the scrub and circulating nurses checking at the same time .



Confirm that the scalpel blades were removed by double check

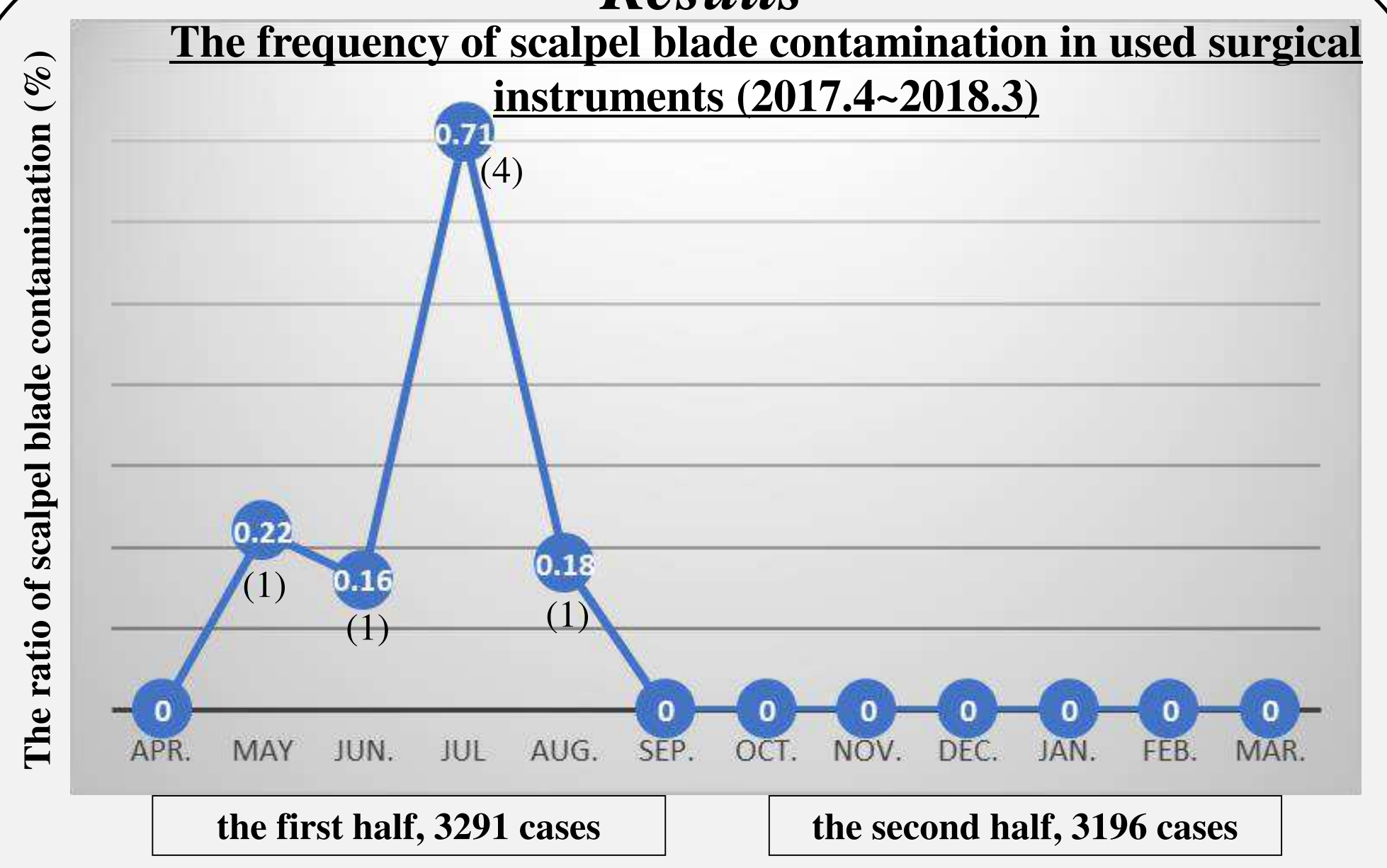
2. Change of work shift:

Avoid changing the circulating nurse just before the end of surgery. (There is a concern that the increase in information transmission due to work shifts may lead to erroneous information transmission.)

- After that, the frequency of scalpel blade contamination in used instruments were compared between the first and second half.

Results

The frequency of scalpel blade contamination in used surgical instruments (2017.4~2018.3)



The frequency of scalpel blade contamination in used surgical instruments was 0.21% (7 cases) in the first half, but 0.00% (0 case) in the second half.