

# SURGICAL FIRES AFFECT 650 PATIENTS EVERY YEAR

## PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF SURGICAL FIRES



“It turns out that surgical fires are at least five times as common as once thought, affecting between 550 and 650 patients a year.”

– Pennsylvania Patient Safety Reporting System, September 2008 (MSNBC article)

With the adoption of the 2012 Edition of NFPA 99, “Training is provided to new OR personnel (including surgeons), continuing education is provided . . . and procedures are reviewed annually.”

– CMS K933 and NFPA 99-15.13

### OUR SURGICAL FIRE PROGRAM SAVES LIVES

We have found that having effective procedures for fire prevention and suppression, and continually providing training and practical exercises for staff, are key in saving the lives of your staff and patients. We have been on the leading edge of Surgical Fire Prevention and Training for over 15 years.

*We Work With You To –*

- ✦ Redesign your fire procedures to ensure compliance with codes/standards
- ✦ Train your staff in realistic fire conditions
- ✦ Address causes, prevention, suppression, surgical team roles, and evacuation procedures
- ✦ Reinforce procedures with practical exercises and drills

*We Provide you with –*

Fire Procedure Redesign... for your surgical areas. We include a survey with customized plans, including the roles and responsibilities of your surgical team and leadership during a fire or an evacuation. We will conduct interviews on your current surgical fire prevention practices.

Realistic Training... for staff, under realistic fire conditions has proven to be the most effective approach in preparing staff and in reducing the chance for the loss of life in a fire.

Training focuses on:

- Fire Prevention* - Identifying causes of surgical fires and learning techniques and procedures for prevention
- Fire Suppression* - Learning the steps to suppress airway, oral cavity, surgical site, and drape fires
- Fire Plan Review* - Understanding the roles of the surgical team during a fire
- Evacuation* - Knowing how to break down equipment and evacuate if necessary
- Practical* - Practicing exercises to improve staff competency and familiarity with roles. Drills reinforce the specific responsibilities performed by individuals (patient care, medical gas shut-offs, etc.) All staff will perform realistic fire suppression on a mock patient.

**RPA is a dedicated team of fire safety, emergency management, and code compliance experts with 42 years experience working exclusively in healthcare at more than 3,000 locations.**

**For more information about our programs for the prevention and management of surgical fires, contact our Business Development Department: 860.793.8600 or [info@phillipsllc.com](mailto:info@phillipsllc.com).**

