

# Do you still count your instruments? Smartray is not about counting, it's about managing!



**Smartray is a powerful visual concept for organizing and counting surgical instruments. Since 2012 the Smartray concept has helped OR nurses to achieve an optimal perioperative patient outcome.**

## Smartray concept

It seems impossible to count each individual instrument! However, if you use a visual tool you can see it at a glance! Easy and efficient! Compare the two pictures. It's not about counting, it's about managing. The government is not concerned about how many instruments/bottles you have. They just want to know if what we have used is complete. If you look on the left picture, you count each bottle to check that you have everything. In comparison, on the right picture you can see at a glance that a bottle is missing.



## How does it work?

Smartray is a visual solution that assists OR Nurses in performing instrument counting. Ilse Bimmel and Marja Versantvoort are OR Nurses. After checking several guidelines and carrying out research they came up with this practical solution. Most nurses are already familiar with fixation used by prothesiology and orthopaedic instrument sets. The Smartray concept is a solution of managing all your instruments. By the use of flexible and easy to adapt fixation strips it's possible to present all the instruments by giving them a unique position on each tray. This concept has one goal: the practical application of the guidelines, as is required for good compliance, even during emergency situations. Another benefit is that your instruments last longer through improved protection. The completeness of instruments is not measured by one moment or the fixating of instruments. It's a continuous process. Reducing the likelihood that an instrument is retained in the patient. There are three pitfalls:

The first pitfall is an incomplete set; sometimes we sterilize instrument sets without an optic or special scissor. As we think we can use this set for other surgeries without needing this specific missing instrument.

The second downside is that it's better to decrease the use of additional instruments. Why sterilize all these separate instruments? Are these extra? Either create sets of them or just remove them from the OT/OR altogether.

The third and last pitfall is an overfull set. You can imagine that we put extra instruments in sets for the new specialist every year. And never remove instruments when a specialist retires.

Eliminating all risks makes the process safer!!

## Complete? See it at a glance!



St. Anna Zorggroep