LASER SAFETY
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1) Move laser into the room, making sure to protect the articulated arm, also make sure the adequate smoke evacuation system available.
2) Hang laser warning signs at all entrances to the room.
3) Make protective eye wear (goggles) available.
4) Plug laser into wall outlet.
5) If free-flowing CO₂ laser: open valves on the laser gas and purge tank. Note how much gas is in and replace tank if gas is low. If sealed CO₂ laser: open valve on purge tank unless laser is equipped with air compressor. (Some may not have a purge tank or compressor)
6) Attach articulate arm to appropriate lens or coupler that will be connected to a hand piece, waveguide, CO₂ laryngoscope or microscope and turn key to 'on'.
7) Test control panel by pushing buttons to desired settings.
8) Test fire the laser on a wet tongue blade to note alignment and proper operation using app. 10 W of power.
9) Place laser on standby mode and drape the articulated arm or microscope if needed.
10) Position laser near the patient.
11) Position laser foot pedal in a convenient location for the operating surgeon.
12) Ensure that everyone, including patient, has proper eye safety.
13) Constantly monitor that all laser safety procedures are completely followed.
14) Active laser when required and put on standby mode when not actively used by surgeon.
15) Make sure that laser plum is being evacuated properly.
16) When surgeon's work is finished, turn the laser off. The laser may be removed when the procedure is complete.
17) The use of laser must be documented on patient's record.
18) The laser and its parts must be cleaned, disinfected or sterilized according to manufacturer's instruction and stored properly.

LASER SAFETY REFERENCES AND REGULATORY BODIES
There are many laser references and regulatory bodies that have developed guidelines or standard for the safe use of lasers in health care²⁰.

- American National standards Institute ( ANSI )
- Centre for devices and radiological health (CDRH).
- Occupational safety and health administration (OSHA).
- National Institute for occupational Safety and Health ( NIOSH )
- Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization ( JCAHO )