# My Practicum at St. Michael’s Hospital

**Ismail Khan | BHS Specialized Honours in Health Management | School of Health Policy and Management**

## THE ORGANIZATION

- St. Michael’s Hospital is a catholic and teaching research hospital located in downtown Toronto acclaimed for providing outstanding patient care.
- St. Michael’s is part of Unity Health Toronto along with St Joseph’s Health Centre and Providence Healthcare.

## MY ROLE

- Worked on quality improvement initiatives related to the surgical safety checklist (SSCL) in Perioperative Services.
- Reported to the Manager of Quality, Patient Safety and Education.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Overview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audit SSCL</td>
<td>• SSCL is a checklist used in the different phases of surgery&lt;br&gt;• Originally created by WHO&lt;br&gt;• 3 stages: briefing (before anesthesia), surgical pause (before skin incision) and debriefing (before patient leaves OR)&lt;br&gt;• Observe SSCL in the OR and check off completed items on iPad app</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create Learning Module for the SSCL</td>
<td>• Module meant for fellows, nurses, residents to learn about the SSCL&lt;br&gt;• Research why the SSCL is important and put main themes in the module&lt;br&gt;• Important because using SSCL has shown to improve communication, teamwork, information transfer and safety in the OR&lt;br&gt;• Module only included the most important information like why it is important and how to use it at St. Michael’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSCL Integration into EHR/EMR</td>
<td>• Perform a literature search to see what’s been done and how&lt;br&gt;• Main findings were tablet or mobile applications, verbalized assistants and large screen displays&lt;br&gt;• Patient information displayed alongside the SSCL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## MY PERSONAL REFLECTION

• Amazing to be in the OR and see surgeries.
• Saw a beating heart up close!
• Opportunity to contribute to a quality improvement initiative.
• Gain real world experience in the healthcare environment.
• Develop and observe communication and presentation skills.
• Overall experience has given me confidence moving forward.

## ADVICE TO FUTURE STUDENTS

• Take initiative; you are capable of more than you think.
• Don’t be afraid to ask questions about your work, career or anything else.
• Make the most of your experience; you are given an opportunity to be in a healthcare environment.
• Have fun and learn!