

What data are available on the role of anesthesiologists in OR management?

Anesthesiologists' day to day OR activities can result in decreases and increases in over-utilized OR time. The latter is the economically rational end-point for OR efficiency on the day of surgery. [Click here](#) to download a review article. Making rational decisions at the OR control desk is important at hospitals. [Click here](#) and [click here](#) for explanations why.

Anesthesiologists can be instrumental in choosing the durations of allocated OR time for each service on each day of the week (i.e., the hours into which cases are scheduled). Observational studies have shown need for improvement. Among US facilities studied and permitting publication, ten of eleven could have achieved significantly lower labor costs if OR time had been allocated based on OR efficiency (for abstracts, [click here](#) and [click here](#); for an article, [click here](#)). The same was true of a studied German hospital ([click here](#)) and an Australian hospital ([click here](#)). Anesthesia-hospital agreements assure that the choices of the allocated OR times are rational ([click here](#)).

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