

## What might a doctor listen to during surgery

In “HARRY & PAUL”, a British sketch-comedy show, two surgeons, Charles and Sheridan, are trying to decide what to listen to while they operate.

Such a scene is not that unusual in an operating theatre. Surgery requires attention to detail, team collaboration, physical **stamina** and fine motor skills — and a soundtrack can help with the **endeavour**.

stamina 耐力; 毅力

endeavor 努力

The use of music in surgery was first introduced in 1914, with a view to **soothing** patients in an era before **anesthesia**. Music masked the background noise and distracted patients from the experience of being cut open and **sewn** back together. Though many patients are now put under general anesthesia for intrusive procedures, the music **lingers** on, usually for the benefit of doctors.

soothing 抚慰的

anesthesia 麻醉; 麻木

sewn 缝纫

linger 徘徊; 磨蹭

What might your surgeon be listening to while you're on the table? The surgeons consulted for this article said the nature of the operation is a big factor in determining their playlists.

Music is most crucial when patients have not been put to sleep. “More relaxing music for a local-anaesthetic vasectomy with an awake patient is useful to allow him to tolerate the procedure,” says Rajesh Nair, a consultant **urological** surgeon at London Bridge Hospital. Though it is not painful, the sensation and experience of the operation can be quite alarming. In these cases, music is intended to be a balm. Heavy metal wouldn't cut it (unless the patient specifically requested it).

urological 泌尿科学的

If patients are asleep, however, it is up to the surgeons. Individual preferences obviously come into it — what the head surgeon or the team see as relaxing or uplifting. Many have go-to

tunes. For Alastair Fry, a consultant oral and maxillofacial surgeon at LBH, it's Groove Armada's "Chicago", which he says "always helps get us in the zone".