

SURGICAL TECHNICIAN**Nature of Work**

Under general supervision, performs surgical assistance work at the full-performance level. Prepares operating room (OR) for surgery by cleaning the OR and all equipment at the beginning and the end of the day, and after each surgery, setting out sterile instruments and materials, and counting all sponges and instruments. Work may require irregular hours and an on-call status. There is little latitude to change work method or procedure. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Work is performed in a sterile setting. It involves assisting the surgical team before, during and after surgery. The employee is exposed to patient blood and other medical wastes. The work requires familiarity with a variety of medical/surgical procedures, surgical instruments, and anatomy. Work is performed in accordance with established operating room policy.

Examples of Work

Cleans the OR equipment with germicides and sterilizers; assists in the cleaning of the operating room.

Sets out instrument trays according to instructions for each procedure; counts sponges, needles, and other instruments before and after surgery; insures sterile field remains uncontaminated.

Transports patients to surgery; reviews medical charts to assist nursing staff in pre-operative check; shaves and cleans surgical site.

Assists surgical team in transferring the patient on and off the table.

Scrubs arms and hands, dons gowns and gloves, and assists surgical team in gowning and gloving.

Maintains the supply of fluids such as saline, glucose and blood in the operating room; inventories and stocks supplies and equipment.

Hands instruments and supplies to surgeon during the operation, holds retractors, and performs other tasks as directed by surgical staff.

Dresses patient wounds and transports patient after surgery.

Removes contaminated instruments, supplies and wastes from sterile field; disposes of wastes appropriately.

May instruct new personnel or attend meetings as required.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge of OR protocol including aseptic (sterile) procedures, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and surgical equipment.

SURGICAL TECHNICIAN (CONTD)

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (contd)

Knowledge of anatomy, surgical procedures, and medical/surgical instruments.

Knowledge of vital signs and indications and contraindications associated with surgery and anesthesia.

Knowledge of nursing theory and practice.

Skill in the lifting and moving of patients.

Skill in the handling and preparation of instruments.

Skill in the cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing of the OR, its equipment and instruments.

Skill in the attention to detail needed to insure cleanliness, instrument and materials counts, and set-up instructions.

Ability to speak clearly and distinctly.

Ability to lift one hundred (100) pounds or more frequently.

Ability to comprehend patient care plans.

Ability to follow oral and written instructions of a highly technical nature.

Ability to work effectively with others.

Minimum Qualifications

TRAINING Graduation from a standard four-year high school.

EXPERIENCE Two years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience as a surgical/operating room technician.

SUBSTITUTION Certification or approval as an operating room technician by the National Association of Operating Technicians' Advisory Board may substitute for the required experience.

Established: 8/20/92

Effective: 9/15/92