



Position Title: Registered Nurse-Operating Room
Supervisor: Clinical Director
Supervises: Surgical Technologists in assigned OR

Job Summary:

Coordinates and administers physical and psychosocial nursing care to the surgical patient during the intraoperative phase. Complies with all established standards and practices. Performs other related duties as needed.

Key Areas of Responsibility:

Nursing Process

1. Performs a comprehensive intraoperative nursing assessment.
2. Demonstrates competency in assessment of the physiological and psychosocial health status of the patient.
3. Acts as a circulator, according to surgical suite policies and procedures for all types of procedures.
4. Ensures the safety of all patients and acts as a patient advocate when appropriate.
5. Shows flexibility in daily duties; adapts as situation requires.
6. Uses therapeutic communication skills with patients and significant others, peers, physicians, other surgical center departments and nursing management.
7. Uses established channels of communication for problem solving.
8. Demonstrates professional knowledge to ensure effective professional practice standards.
9. Evaluates the effectiveness of nursing care based upon the assessment of patient's responses to the surgical experience.

Compliance with nursing service policies.

1. Demonstrates willingness to support staffing/scheduling needs of clients and the agency.
2. Participates in in-services, committee meetings, educational programs, and nursing service meetings.
3. Assists in the orientation and development of nursing personnel.
4. Professional practice is consistent with established policies, procedures and protocols.
5. Assures adherence to ethical and legal standards of the agency and profession.
6. Participates in quality assurance and performance improvement activities.

7. Assumes leadership role to provide high quality, cost effective patient care.
8. Maintains accountability for nursing care delivered directly and for aspects of care delegated to others.
9. Demonstrates professional behaviors and knowledge to ensure effective practice in the operating room environment.

Organizational Expectations

1. Supports a caring and respectful atmosphere with patients, visitors and surgical center associated personnel.
2. Protects privacy and confidentiality of information pertaining to patient, employee, department and surgical center information and records.
3. Maintains a safe and secure working environment and practices safe working habits.
4. Adheres to surgical center/department dress code.
5. Follows appropriate procedures for universal precautions.
6. Complies with surgical center absentee policy.
7. Assists in control of surgical center resources.
8. Attends departmental meeting and mandatory in-service programs on fire, safety, disaster, and infection control.
9. Uses proper body mechanics and other safety precautions to prevent patient and/or personal injury.
10. Performs other related duties as assigned by supervisor.

Knowledge, Skills And Abilities:

1. Experience: One year operating room experience required or previous operating room exposure i.e. surgical tech.
2. Licensure: Current RN licensure by the state Board of Nursing
3. Equipment: Basic knowledge of all equipment used in operating room environment.

Education:

1. Graduate of an accredited school of nursing.

Working Conditions:

1. Normal perioperative environment with exposure to chemical odors, cleaning solvents and other hazardous materials. Must follow established procedures to ensure safety.
2. Exposure to possible injury when working with electrical equipment and lasers which require care and following proper safety procedures.
3. Physical demands:
 - a. sitting 20% of day
 - b. standing/walking 80% of day
 - c. trunk movements (rotation, repetition, bending)
 - d. lifting patients (large, heavy repetition - 46 lbs. and above)
 - e. carrying (small, light weight objects on smooth terrain)
 - f. pushing/pulling (frequent occupied beds and carts)
 - g. low level work (squatting, kneeling)
 - h. dexterity of hands and fingers, fine finger movements

Based on the OSHA guidelines for protection against occupational exposure to Hepatitis and HIV, this position is described as Category I. This means that this position has exposure to blood and body fluids. Policies are in place for Universal Precautions identifying risks and appropriate barrier protection.