CERTIFIED SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST / OPERATING ROOM TECHNICIAN

Definition

The surgical technologist practitioner may be assigned other functions as permitted by the hospital and/or employer policy. The performance of these functions should be according to the experience and scope of educational preparation of the individual surgical technologist and applicable legal guidelines.

Goals

1. Development of ideals and a professional attitude that will promote responsibility as an individual and also as a member of the health care team.

2. Application of knowledge of the basic concepts necessary for the performance of the duties expected of the CST.

3. Development of a code of professional behavior that will reflect the ethical, legal, and moral responsibilities of each individual.

4. Coordination of team efforts to offer the most qualified team support to the surgical patient, the surgeon, and all members of the surgical team.

5. Awareness of the patient as an individual, with specific psychological, physical, and spiritual needs.

6. Education of the general public as to what a CST is and what his or her specific duties on the health care team entail.

Objectives

1. Apply the principles of asepsis in a knowledgeable manner to provide optimum patient care.

2. Identify emergency situations and use sound judgment in instituting established procedures. Correct situations in a calm and efficient manner.

3. Develop initiative in order to inquire and explore new surgical procedures and subjects relating to the operating room and to the surgical patient.

4. Provide a safe, efficient environment for the surgical patient.
5. Respect the patient's inherent right to privacy, dignity, and safety.
6. Understand the actions and use of anesthetic agents in order to be able to care for the patient in an intelligent manner.
7. Develop and improve skills in assisting the surgeon and in the organization of work by learning to use economy in time, motion, and materials.
8. Identify the structure and function of body parts; recognize common disorders of the body.
9. Function under all aspects of surgical techniques, both routine and special surgical procedures, and perform them in a professional manner.
10. Relate operating room technique to the total hospital environment.
11. Understand the services provided by the surgeon in relation to the patient's restoration to health and return to the community.
12. Prepare and know the specific uses of all equipment and supplies used for surgical procedures.
13. Realize the importance of teamwork, consideration, and cooperation.
14. Anticipate the needs of the surgeon in order to expedite the procedure, thus minimizing the patient's exposure to trauma.
15. Recognize limits of individual responsibility.
16. Recognize and clearly understand that each individual is totally responsible for her or his own actions.
17. Differentiate sterilization methods for special equipment and instruments necessary for specific surgical procedures.

Job Knowledge

1. Principles of asepsis and sterile technique
2. Anatomy and physiology
3. Medical terminology
4. Microbiology
5. Pathology; care and handling of specimen
6. Procedures in OR; special positioning of patients
7. Environmental dangers
8. Manual dexterity
9. Professional ethics
10. Cost containment
11. Complications of surgical procedures
12. Pharmacology
13. Instrumentation
14. Communications
15. Sutures
16. Prosthetics
17. Solutions
18. Anesthesia

**Surgery Knowledge**
1. Eye, ear, nose, throat surgery
2. General surgery
3. Gynecological surgery
4. Vascular surgery
5. Neurosurgery
6. Orthopedic surgery
7. Urologic surgery
8. Rectal surgery
9. Plastic repair and reconstruction
10. Transplant surgery and organ procurement
11. Thoracic surgery

**Equipment**

Knowledge and the ability to use or assist in the use of equipment, such as the following:

1. Sterilizers
2. Electrosurgical machines
3. EKG monitors
4. Suction machines
5. Endoscopic equipment
6. Pacemaker equipment
7. Orthopedic tourniquets
8. Microscopes
9. Air-powered equipment
10. Operating tables
11. Lasers

Employee Name (Print) ________________________________

Employee Signature______________________________ Date ____________

Employer name (Print) ________________________________

Employer Signature______________________________ Date ____________