



## DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

<b>Division:</b> FAR WEST
<b>DHP Classification:</b> ORTHOPEDIC PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
<b>Name of Dependent Healthcare Professional (DHP):</b>

### **Orthopedic Physician Assistant :**

The Orthopedic Physician Assistant (OPA-C) must have equivalent qualifications, competence and function in the same role as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility, as defined by facility job description.

### **Definition of Care or Service:**

The OPA assists under the direct supervision of the surgeon and takes direction from the surgeon in performing job responsibilities during the intraoperative phase and perioperative procedure. Scope of Service may include:

- Prepares, sets up and maintains specific types of traction requested by the orthopedist
  - Assists with orthopedic appliance application, maintenance and removal
  - Fits and adjusts ambulation aids including canes, crutches and walkers
  - Applies dressing to orthopedic surgery site
  - Removes initial post-operative dressing from orthopedic surgery site
  - Applies, maintains and removes plaster and synthetic casts
  - Provides instruction to patients regarding orthopedic dressings and devices
- First assist with all procedures to include removal of sutures and drains, tissue retraction, suturing of tissues, cutting of suture, closing of the operative case, and application of any appropriate appliance
- Maintains and secures patient data and records
- Documents the procedure in the medical record
- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians
- Maintains confidentiality and privacy in accordance with HIPAA regulations

### **Setting(s):**

- Healthcare facilities including but not limited to hospitals, outpatient treatment facilities, clinics and physician practices
  - Monitoring may occur in all patient care areas, including Surgery, Emergency Department, Critical Care, and general acute settings

**Supervision:** Direct supervision by Orthopedist

**Evaluators:** Supervising orthopedist; department director or designee

### **Qualifications:**

- Successful completion of orthopedic physician assistant training program from an approved orthopedic assistant's program accredited by the American Medical Association Council on Medical Education; successful fulfillment of the certification requirements of the National Board for Certification of Orthopedic Physician Assistants;
- Current Certification of Orthopedic Physician Assistants
- American Heart Association health care provider BLS Certification

### **State Requirements:**

- N/A

### **Experience:**

- Minimum 1-2 years related experience and/or training

### **Competencies:**

The OPA will demonstrate:

- Accurate patient information review and evaluation



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- Uses at least two ways to identify patients before treating or performing a procedure
- Verifies that the requested procedure correlates with the patient's clinical history, presentation and physician order
- Participates in the pre-procedure (Universal Protocol) process to verify the correct procedure, for the correct patient, at the correct site and involves the patient in the verification process when possible
- Accesses the patient medical record appropriately
- Documents in the medical record according to the facility standard / policy
- Participates in a time-out immediately before the start of an invasive procedure or making of the incision
- Safe and effective use of orthopedic equipment and products for treatment
  - Applies equipment/products according to orthopedist treatment orders
  - Follows the manufacturer's recommendations for equipment and product utilization
  - Initiates orthopedic equipment/product safely and efficiently
  - Monitor's patient tolerance of treatment including equipment/product
  - Reports treatment and patient tolerance to Primary RN
- Care of surgical site
  - Knowledge of suturing patient wounds, removing staples, managing wounds, incisions, fractures and splint and casting
  - Uses appropriate technique when applying dressing to surgical site
  - Demonstrates practices associated with infection prevention
- Delivers patient education for orthopedic treatments and equipment
  - Communicates effectively with patient and support system
  - Provides education to the patient for self-care and maintenance of orthopedic equipment
  - Reports outcome of patient education to Primary RN and / or Orthopedist
- Infection Prevention
  - Practices consistent hand hygiene
  - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Required immunizations per DHP Division requirements
  - Complies with Isolation precautions

### **References:**

National Board for Certification of Orthopaedic Physician's Assistant (NBCOPA)

Retrieved from <http://asoa-ortho.org/sections/what-is-opac.php>

**DHP Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DHP Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company/Vendor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_