



DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

Division: NORTH TEXAS
Classification: CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE FIRST ASSISTANT
Applicant Name:

Certified Registered Nurse First Assistant:
The Certified Registered Nurse First Assistant 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 CRNFA is a perioperative registered nurse who works under the direct supervision of a surgeon. The CRNFA works in collaboration with the surgeon and other health care team members to achieve optimal patient outcomes. Acts as the primary assistant to a surgeon during a surgical procedure. Scope of Service may include:

- Assists the surgeon by providing retraction and aiding exposure of the operative site.
- Anticipates the moves of the surgeon and assists in the safe and efficient completion of surgical procedures
- Facilitates hemostasis of the surgical site by performing suction, irrigation and sponging the operative site during a surgical procedure
- Assists with skin or external suturing and stapling
- Assists with securing drainage systems and dressings
- Performs focused preoperative nursing assessments
- Communicates and collaborates with other health care providers regarding the patient plan of care
- Participates in postoperative rounds and assists with patient discharge planning
- Helps in draping sterile field
- Checks supplies and equipment needed for surgical procedure
- Scrubs, gowns, and gloves
- Gowns and gloves surgeon and assistants
- Maintains highest standard of sterile technique during procedure
- Passes instruments and other appropriate items to surgeon and assistants during procedure
- Participates in appropriate surgical counts with the circulator prior to the operation and before incision is closed as per hospital policy
- Prepares sterile dressings
- Holds retractors or instruments as directed by the surgeon
- Sponges or suctions operative site
- Applies electro cautery to clamps on bleeders
- Connects drains to suction apparatus
- Cuts suture material as directed by the surgeon
- Applies dressings to closed wound
- Positions the patient
- Provides visualization of the operative site
- Utilizes appropriate techniques to assist with hemostasis
- Utilizes appropriate techniques to assist with closure of subcutaneous tissue and skin
 - Includes postoperative subcutaneous injection of local anesthetic as directed by the surgeon



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- Selects and applies appropriate wound dressings
- Provides assistance in securing drainage systems to tissue
- Applies tourniquets and demonstrates awareness of indication/contra indications
- Applies vessel loops, clamps, and direct digital pressure
- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians.

Setting(s):

- Surgical services areas including but not limited to hospitals and outpatient surgery centers

Supervision:

- Direct supervision by surgeon
- Indirect supervision by surgery department director, site manager or designee

Evaluator: Surgeon / supervising physician in conjunction with surgery department director or designee

Tier Level: 3

Qualifications:

- Completion of an approved RN First Assistant Training Program (RNFA)
- RN license
- CRNFA and CNOR certification
- American Heart Association health care provider BLS Certification

* For DaVinci Robot – evidence of additional training and proctoring per facility requirements.

NOTE: Where education may not be defined in qualifications area of the Scope, HCA requires the highest level of education completed (not training or courses) confirmed on your background check.

State Requirements:

- Current licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Texas or a current, valid registered nurse license with a multi-state privilege in a party state;
- A registered nurse (including an advanced practice nurse) functioning as a first assistant in surgery shall comply with the standards set forth by the AORN.

Experience:

Two years of OR experience is preferred.

Competencies:

The Certified Registered Nurse First Assistant will demonstrate:

- Safe environment for patients
 - Uses at least two ways to identify patients before treating or performing a procedure
 - Labels containers used for blood and specimens in the presence of the patient
 - Labels all medications and solutions on and off the sterile field in perioperative and procedural settings
 - Participates in the preprocedure process to verify the correct procedure, for the correct patient, at the correct site / side and involves the patient in the verification process when possible.
 - Participates in a time-out immediately before the start of an invasive procedure
- Surgical First Assistant Skills
 - Assist with positioning, prepping, draping of patient
 - Provide visualization of the operative field by the use of retraction, scalpel, scissors, or electrocautery, as directed by the surgeon
 - Assists the surgeon in providing hemostasis by:



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- Applying electrocautery tip to clamp or tissue in a safe manner, as directed by surgeon
 - Sponging and utilizing pressure
 - Providing suction
 - Applying clamps on vessels and the tying or electrocoagulation of them, directed by the surgeon
 - Placing suture ligatures in tissue, as directed by the surgeon
 - Placing hemoclips on vessels, as directed by the surgeon (in cardiac surgery only)
 - Provides closure of subcutaneous and skin layers
 - Performs suturing and stapling (external staples only)
- Assists the surgeon at the completion of the procedure by:
 - Affixing and stabilizing drains
 - Cleansing the wound and applying the dressing
 - Assist with application of cast, splints, and other devices
 - Inserts and removes urinary catheter and nasogastric tubes
 - Injects local anesthetic into operative field
 - Harvests and prepares graft tissues (in cardiac surgery only)
- Infection Prevention
 - Practices consistent hand hygiene
 - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Required immunizations per Division requirements
 - Complies with Isolation precautions
- Puts in orders and write out prescriptions (not narcotics)

References:

Credential Resource Clinical Privilege White Paper on Surgical First Assistants

Texas Board of Nursing, Texas Administrative Code, Source Note: The provisions of this §217.18 adopted to be effective March 13, 2002, 27 TexReg 1735; amended to be effective February 20, 2003, 28 TexReg 1381; amended to be effective February 19, 2006, 31 TexReg 850

CCI RNFA Programs <http://www.cc-institute.org/crnfa/certification/steps/programs>

Your signature confirms you will be able to comply with the Qualifications and Competencies listed within this Scope of Service and that you will confirm education via your background check.

Applicant Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____