

DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

Division: SAN ANTONIO
Classification: SURGICAL ASSISTANT- RN
Applicant Name:
<p>Surgical Assistant-RN The Surgical Assistant-RN 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.</p> <p>Definition of Care or Service: The Surgical Assistant-RN acts under the direct supervision of the surgeon to facilitate a safe operation with optimal results for the patient. Scope of Service may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assures quality patient care through coordination of patient care in the operating room with the circulating registered nurse and other members of the surgical team. • Procedure/registered nurses must have a thorough working knowledge of aseptic technique, handling instruments, supplies, and equipment necessary during a surgical procedure. • Demonstrates advanced knowledge of his/her surgical specialty and ensures quality patient care during the procedure while consistently maintaining sterile field integrity. • Trained and knowledgeable about all equipment used in the specialty(ies). • Make patient rounds, apply the nursing process (assessment, planning, intervention, & evaluation), change dressing, remove sutures, perform patient teaching, discharge planning, and / or document in the patient medical record (must be countersigned by physician within 24 hours). • Works in accordance with MHS policies, procedures, Texas Nurse Practice Act, AORN, related laws, and regulations. • Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA Healthcare conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians. <p>Setting(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare facilities including hospitals and outpatient treatment facilities <p>Supervision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct supervision by physician for surgical area & R.N. activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indirect supervision by physician for rounding activities ○ Indirect supervision by surgery department director, site manager or designee <p>Evaluator: Sponsoring / supervising physician(s) in conjunction with surgery department director or designee</p> <p>Tier Level: 3</p> <p>eSAF Access Required: YES</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associates degree or higher in Nursing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Verification of high school graduation/GED is required for those with a nursing associate degree or diploma. • RN License • American Heart Association or Red Cross health care provider BLS Certification

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Preferred Qualifications:

- CNOR or Surgical Technologist certification preferred

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

State Requirements:

- Maintains a current license recognized by the Texas Board of Nursing to practice as a professional registered nurse

Experience:

- Minimum of one year recent perioperative experience in the requested surgical specialty

Competencies:

The Surgical Assistant-RN will demonstrate:

- Consistent practice within limitations of preparation, experience, and scope of practice as defined by AORN and MHS under the appropriate level of direct/ indirect supervision.
- Accurate patient information review and evaluation through:
 - 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 according to hospital policy.
 - Participating in the pre-procedure process to verify the correct procedure, for the correct patient, at the correct site and involves the patient in the verification process when possible.
 - Participates in a time-out when called by the surgeon or another member of the surgical team immediately prior to the start of an invasive procedure or surgeon incision.
 - Accesses the patient medical record appropriately maintaining confidentiality & privacy in accordance with HIPAA regulations.
- Assisting with procedures: Possesses an advanced working knowledge of aseptic principles & techniques:
 - Setting up a sterile area
 - Opening sterile packs & supplies
 - Opening sterile instruments
 - Scrubbing gowning & gloving
 - Surgical draping
 - Follows universal precautions
 - Follows MHS hazardous materials management guidelines found on MHS Central (Intranet)
 - Consistently using personal protective equipment
 - Follows MHS guidelines for hand hygiene & using sanitizer before entry into a patient room and upon exit
- Medication Management:
 - Follows MHS policy for verification and labeling of medications in operative and procedural areas.
 - According to physician's orders, prepares medications and solutions for use during procedures & communicates information to the MHS patient care team.
- Is knowledgeable about all current National Patient Safety goals as defined by the Joint Commission and applies them consistently and appropriately to all patients. (i.e. use of 2 patient identifiers (name & date of birth).
- Consistently assists in maintaining patient's expected physiologic responses to surgery and anesthesia:
 - Latex allergy



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- Malignant Hyperthermia
- Infection prevention
 - SCIP measures and practices
 - Wound management & application of dressings after incision closure
 - Instrument processing & sterilization/disinfection practices
 - Pre-op skin preparation
- Makes rounds in addition to physician, not in lieu of; conveys physician orders; documents in the medical record (must be countersigned by physician within 24 hours). The nurse may not dictate history & physicals or operative reports.
- Consistently applies nursing process (including assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluation), performs necessary patient teaching, and discharge planning; documents in patient medical record and communicates information to necessary caregivers.
- Consistently maintains a safe environment for patients.
 - Assess for fall risks prior to exit of patient room
 - Ensure patient call light is in close proximity to the patient
 - Encourage patient to call for assistance if needed
- Maintains accountability for instruments, sharps, sponges, according to MHS policy throughout the surgical procedure to ensure that no foreign objects are retained in the surgical wound. Takes appropriate action(s) if surgical counts are not correct & communicates information to surgical team.
- Performs accurate patient information review and evaluation:
 - Collects and documents assessment data into the patient medical record. Entries in the medical record are countersigned by the attending physician within 24 hours.
 - Facilitates communication between the physician, patient, family and patient care staff.
 - Notifies the appropriate member of the interdisciplinary patient care team of issues that require immediate intervention or attention.
- Maintains adequate knowledge about utilized equipment operation and basic troubleshooting.* **The RN has the burden of proof to show documentation of training***
 - Has been trained and can validate correct operation of any utilized equipment.
 - Reports any equipment not functioning correctly immediately to a MHS staff member.
 - Has been trained and can demonstrate basic troubleshooting of any utilized equipment.
- Utilizes appropriate techniques to assist the surgeon with:
 - Retraction
 - Cutting Sutures
 - Maintaining visualization of the surgical site using sponges or suction
 - Use of safe zone to pass sharps
 - Applying electrocautery to clamps on bleeders
 - Connecting drains to suction devices
 - Suture removal Dressing changes
 - Use of rigid safety procedures & protocols with use of :
 - Electrocautery
 - Powered equipment
 - Hazardous chemicals

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- Monitors the sterile field during procedure and takes appropriate measures to ensure the integrity of sterile field and maintenance of sterile techniques. Initiates corrective action for any break in technique.
 - Avoids contamination of sterile drapes, personnel, & instruments
 - Communicates any witnessed or suspected contamination to surgical team
- Consistently assists in maintaining a safe environment to facilitate a safe patient outcome:
 - Any equipment to assist with positioning (tables, positioning devices, etc)
 - Basic OR/procedure equipment (lights, suction, O2)
 - Powered equipment
 - Minimally invasive equipment (light sources, endoscopes, insufflations devices)
 - Radiation safety
 - Electrosurgical safety
 - Fire Safety
- Consistently communicates any changes to surgical preferences to the surgical team members.
- Infection Prevention
 - Practices consistent hand hygiene
 - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) when required
 - Required immunizations per Division requirements
 - Complies with Isolation precautions
 - Maintains sterile field

References:

Association of periOperative Room Nurses (AORN) (2011). Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices 2009 Edition. AORN, Inc.: Denver.

Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) (2009). Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Surgical Assisting: Job Description: Surgical Assistant. Retrieved from www.AST.org.

Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) (2001). Role Definitions and Qualifications for the Certified Surgical Technologist and Certified First Assistant. Retrieved from www.AST.org.

Cairns, Carol. (2007). Solving the AHP Conundrum: How to Comply with HR Standards Related to Non-privileged Practitioners (Figure A.13). HCPro, Inc.: Marblehead, MA, 97-102.

Credentialing Resource Center (2006). Clinical Privilege White Paper: Surgical First Assistant (Practice area 180). A supplement to Briefings on Credentialing. Opus communications: Marblehead, MA

Rothrock, Jane C. (2009). Assisting in Surgery: Patient-Centered Care. Competency & Credentialing Institute. Texas Board of Nursing (2011). Scope of Practice. www.bne.state.tx.us/practice/apn-scopeofpractice.html.

Texas Board of Nursing License Verification: https://www.bon.texas.gov/licensure_verification.asp

Nursing Compact States & Nurse Licensure: <https://www.travelnursing.com/what-is-travel-nursing/nursing-compact-states/>

Nursys: <https://www.nursys.com/LQC/LQCTerms.aspx>

Document Control:

- Previously named Surgical Registered Nurse
- Cosmetic updates 7/29/2019



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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: _____