



## Study Plan 2018

For applicants sitting for the exam between  
July 1, 2018 & June 30, 2019

### References Cited in This Plan:

AORN. (2018). *Guidelines for perioperative practice*. Denver, CO: AORN.

Phillips, N. (Ed.). (2017). *Berry and Kohn's operating room technique* (13th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.  
(Key=B&K)

Rothrock, J.C. (Ed.). (2019). *Alexander's care of the patient in surgery* (16th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.  
(Key=Alexander's)

AORN Position Statements and endorsed documents are found at

<http://www.aorn.org/guidelines/clinical-resources/position-statements>

NOTE: **Bolded** items appear in multiple subject areas

## Subject Area 1: Preoperative Patient Assessment and Diagnosis 12%

### Primary General Readings:

*AORN Guidelines: Medication Safety*

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery: Chapters 1, 2, 30*

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique: Chapters 2, 3, 11, 21*

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1: Assess the health status of the patient	Age-specific, anatomy & physiology, assessment, diagnostic studies, documentation, laboratory results, <b>nursing diagnosis, nursing process, NANDA, Perioperative Nursing Data Set (PNDS)</b> , pathophysiology, physical assessment, preoperative fasting, vital signs	AORN Guidelines for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient Information Management</li> <li>• Moderate Sedation/Analgesia, pp. 644-648; 659-660</li> <li>• Local Anesthesia: 601-602</li> </ul> AORN Position Statement: Care of the Older Adult in Perioperative Settings Alexander's: Chapter 5, p. 112; Chapters 26,27; Appendix A B&K: Chapters 7, 8, 9, 25
2: Review of preoperative medications	<b>Allergies</b> , complementary/alternative medicine (CAM), herbs, illegal/illicit drugs, medication reconciliation, <b>pharmacology</b> , recreational drugs side effects	AORN Guideline for Complementary Care Alexander's: Chapter 19, p. 625; Chapter 29, pp. 1129-1130 B&K: Chapter 23 pp. 412-413
3: Initiation of the <b>Universal Protocol</b>	Preoperative verification, site marking, surgical safety checklist, <b>The Joint Commission</b> , wrong site, wrong procedure, wrong person	AORN Guideline for Team Communication, pp. 758-759; 761-762 AORN Position Statement: Preventing Wrong- Patient, Wrong-Site, Wrong-Procedure Events
4: Obtain surgical consent	Alternatives, autonomy, benefits, complications, informed consent, patient rights, privacy, respect, risk	See Primary General Readings AORN Guideline: Patient Information Management, p. 582-586

5: Ensure patient rights/advance directives, DNR	Advance directive, allow natural death (AND), CPR directive, DNR, living will, medical durable power of attorney, Patient Self-Determination Act (PSDA)	AORN Position Statement: Perioperative Care of Patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders
6: Pain assessment	<b>Allergies</b> , analgesia, narcotics, NSAIDS, nonpharmacological interventions, opioids, pain block, pain intensity scales, PCA, pharmacology, regional anesthesia, self-report, signs, symptoms, <b>The Joint Commission</b>	Alexander's: Chapters 5, 10, 26, 27 B&K: Chapters 8, 9, 30
7: Development of nursing diagnoses	<b>NANDA, nursing diagnosis, PNDS</b>	AORN Guideline: Patient Information Management, pp. 577-578 AORN Endorsed Document: ANA Position Statement on Inclusion of Recognized Terminologies within HER and other HIT Solutions

## Subject Area 2: Identify Expected Outcomes and Develop a Plan of Care 10%

### Primary General Readings:

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*: Chapter 1; Unit II: Surgical interventions

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*: Chapters 2, 7, 21, 26

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Identify and plan for expected patient outcomes	<b>Nursing diagnoses</b> , preoperative nursing interventions, patient needs	See Primary General readings
2. Develop an individualized plan of care	Age-specific, <b>anxiety, behavioral responses</b> , collaboration, comfort, <b>cultural /ethnic diversity</b> , legal/ethical standards, <b>pain management, physiological responses</b> , patient-centered, resources, SCIP protocol, <b>spiritual needs</b>	AORN Guideline: Patient Information Management, pp. 578-580 Alexander's: Chapter 6, p. 160; Chapter 22, pp. 812-813; Chapters 10, 26, 27 B&K: Chapters 8, 9, 11

3. Prepare for perioperative <b>safety needs</b>	<b>Chemical, radiation, fire, laser, positioning</b>	AORN Guidelines for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy-Generating Devices</li> <li>• Radiation Safety</li> <li>• Ambulatory Supplement: Radiation Safety</li> <li>• Positioning the Patient</li> </ul> Alexander's: Chapters 2, 3, 6,8 B&K: Chapter 13
4. Adhere to standard and transmission-based precautions	Hand hygiene, <b>PPE</b> , contact, droplet, airborne	AORN Guidelines: Hand Hygiene; Transmissible Infections AORN Endorsed Document: ANA Position Statement on Immunizations Alexander's: Chapter 4 B&K: Chapter 15, pp. 254-256

### Subject Area 3: Intraoperative Activities 27%

#### Primary General Readings:

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery:* Chapters 2, 4, 6

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique:* Chapters 2, 11, 25, 27

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Optimize <b>physiological patient responses</b>	Hyperthermia, hypothermia, infection control, infection prevention, patient temperature control, perfusion, surgical procedure, wound classification, wound healing	AORN Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypothermia</li> <li>• Transmissible infections, p. 520</li> </ul> Alexander's: Chapter 9; Chapter 10, pp. 267-268; Unit II B&K: Chapter 29
2. Optimize <b>behavioral patient responses</b>	Comfort, anxiety, medication, pain management, <b>cultural, ethical, and spiritual needs</b>	See Primary General readings

<p>3. Monitor and maintain patient and personnel <b>safety</b></p>	<p>Body mechanics, <b>chemical</b>, counts, deep vein thrombosis, documentation, ergonomics, equipment, manufacturer's instructions for use (IFU), <b>fire</b>, hazardous materials, lead aprons, National Patient Safety Goals, <b>smoke plume, laser</b>, laser goggles, <b>positioning, radiation</b>, tourniquet, <b>Universal Protocol</b>, WHO checklist</p>	<p>AORN Guidelines for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment of Care, Part I</li> <li>• Energy-Generating Devices</li> <li>• Radiation Safety</li> <li>• Ambulatory Supplement: Radiation Safety</li> <li>• Surgical Smoke Safety</li> <li>• Minimally Invasive Surgery</li> <li>• Positioning the Patient</li> <li>• Sharps Safety</li> <li>• Pneumatic Tourniquet</li> <li>• Prevention of Retained Surgical Items</li> <li>• Ambulatory Supplement: Prevention of Retained Surgical Items</li> <li>• Patient Information Management</li> <li>• Team Communication</li> <li>• Venous Thromboembolism</li> </ul> <p>AORN Position Statements: Patient Safety; Prevention of pressure Ulcers Alexander's: Chapters 3, 8, 29</p>
<p>4. Prepare the surgical site</p>	<p>Patient dignity, modesty, privacy, <b>positioning</b>, skin prep antisepsis</p>	<p>AORN Guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positioning the Patient</li> <li>• Preoperative Patient Skin Antisepsis</li> </ul> <p>B&amp;K: Chapter 26</p>
<p>5. Monitor and evaluate effects of pharmacologic/anesthetic agents</p>	<p>Anesthesia agents, labeling, <b>medications, pain management</b></p>	<p>AORN Guidelines for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care of the Patient Receiving Moderate Sedation/Analgesia</li> <li>• Medication safety</li> <li>• Ambulatory supplement: Medication safety</li> <li>• Care of the patient receiving local anesthesia</li> </ul> <p>AORN Endorsed Document: CDC Position Statement on Single-Dose/Single Use Vials Alexander's: Chapters 5,10 B&amp;K: Chapters 23, 24</p>

6. Maintain sterility of surgical field	Aseptic technique, expiration date, instruments, package integrity, sterile, surgical products	AORN Guidelines for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surgical Attire</li> <li>• Hand Hygiene</li> <li>• Sterile Technique</li> <li>• Product Selection</li> <li>• Prevention of Transmissible Infections</li> <li>• Ambulatory Supplement: Prevention of Transmissible Infections</li> </ul> Alexander's: Chapter 4 B&K: Chapters 15, 16
7. Control environmental factors	Air exchanges, humidity, noise, room temperature, traffic	AORN Guidelines for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Cleaning</li> <li>• Safe Environment of Care, Part 2</li> </ul> AORN Position Statements: HVAC Interim Guidance Statement AORN Endorsed Document: Joint Commission- OR Relative Humidity Alexander's: Chapters 3, 4 B&K: Chapters 10, 11, 12
8. Specimen management	Documentation, explant, <b>implant</b> , verification	AORN Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Management</li> <li>• Autologous Tissue Management</li> </ul> B&K: Chapter 22
9. Anticipate and prevent hemodynamic complications	Autotransfusion, blood products, blood transfusion	Alexander's: Chapter 11, p. 295; Chapter 12, pp. 349-350; Chapter 23, p. 875; Chapter 28, pp. 1102-1104; Appendix A B&K: Chapter 8, p. 133; Chapter 31, pp. 608-615; Chapter 44, pp. 915-916.

## Subject Area 4: Communication 10%

### Primary General Readings:

*AORN Guidelines: Team Communication*

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery: Chapter 2. Each chapter in Unit II has discharge planning information pertinent to that specialty.*

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique: Chapters 6, 7, 21*

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Communication techniques	barriers, <b>hand-offs/hand overs</b> , patient status	Alexander's: Chapter 10, pp. 261-262; Chapter 26, pp. 1004-1005; Chapter 27, p. 1156 B&K: Chapter 1, p. 11; Chapter 6, pp. 77-78; Chapter 25, pp. 470-471; Chapter 41, p. 839
2. Interviewing techniques	Preoperative assessment	Alexander's: Chapter 1, p. 3-5; Chapter 26, pp. 1001-1003; Chapter 30, p. 1156 B&K: Chapter 21, pp. 368-370
3. Information technology	<b>HIPAA</b> , security rules, software applications	AORN Guideline: Patient Information Management, pp. 583-586 Alexander's: Chapter 1, pp. 13 B&K: Chapter 2, p. 18; Chapter 10, pp. 182-183
4. Reporting to interdisciplinary team	<b>Allergies</b> , critical lab values, <b>medications, hand offs/hand overs, HIPAA, implants, SBAR</b> , verbal orders	AORN Guideline: Care of the Patient Receiving Local Anesthesia, pp. 600-601 Alexander's: Chapter 1, p. 9; Chapter 10, pp. 261 B&K: Chapter 1, pp. 11-12; Chapter 11, p. 197
5. Patient education	<b>Documentation</b> , family, health literacy, <b>HIPAA</b> , read back, teach back	AORN Guideline: Care of the Patient Receiving Local Anesthesia, pp. 607-608 Alexander's: Chapter 10, p. 284; Chapter 26, pp. 1009-1010 B&K: Chapter 21, p. 370-371

## Subject Area 5: Transfer of Care 6%

### Primary General Readings:

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*, Chapter 10. Each chapter in Unit II has discharge planning information pertinent to that specialty.

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*: Chapters 11, 30

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Interdisciplinary services for coordinating care	Continuity of care, <b>hand-off/hand over</b> , interdisciplinary, PACU, transfer of care criteria	AORN Guideline: Team Communication Alexander's: Chapter 2, pp. 21, 22, 24 B&K: Chapter 25
2. Discharge planning for the patient leaving the facility	Discharge, regulatory guidelines, wound care	AORN Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medication safety, pp. 306,308</li> <li>• Care of the Patient Receiving Moderate Sedation/Analgesia, pp. 673-675</li> </ul> Alexander's: Chapter 2, pp. 18

## Subject Area 6: Cleaning, Disinfecting, Packaging, Sterilizing, Transporting, and Storing Instruments and Supplies 9%

### Primary General Readings:

*AORN Guidelines:* Flexible Endoscopes; High-Level Disinfection; Instrument Cleaning; Packaging Systems; Sterilization

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery:* Chapter 4

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique:* Chapters 17,18

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Cleaning and disinfecting instruments and supplies	Bioburden, biofilm, cleaning, critical item, decontamination, decontamination area, disinfection, documentation, enzymatic cleaner, FDA, germicide, high-level disinfection, loaner instrumentation, low-level disinfection, non-critical item, PPE, semi-critical item, Spaulding classification, ultrasonic cleaner	Alexander's: Chapter 8, pp. 210-211



2. Packaging and sterilization of instruments and supplies	Dynamic air removal, gravity displacement, hydrogen peroxide gas plasma sterilization, immediate use sterilization, implants, load, packaging, prevacuum, steam, sterilization	See primary readings
3. Documentation required for monitoring safe sterilization practices	Biological indicator, Bowie-Dick, chemical indicator, documentation, emulating indicators, load parameters, physical monitor, pressure, temperature, regulations, tracking	See primary readings
4. Principles of transporting and storing equipment, sterile supplies, and instruments	Controlled conditions, event related, regulatory requirements, shelf life, storage, time related, tracking, transportation, vendors	AORN Position Statement: Role of the Health Care Industry Representative
5. Safe handling of hazardous/biohazardous materials	Blood, bloodborne pathogen, chemotherapy drugs, CJD, ETO, glutaraldehyde, radioactive materials	AORN Guideline: Environment of Care Part 1 B&K: Chapter 7, p. 110; Chapter 13, pp. 221- 222; Chapter 14, pp. 240-241

## Subject Area 7: Emergency Situations 11%

### Primary Chapter Readings:

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*: Chapter 28, Trauma Surgery

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*: Chapter 13, Potential sources of injury to the caregiver and the patient; Chapter 31, Potential Perioperative Complications

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Prepare for and manage anaphylaxis	Allergy, anaphylactic <b>shock</b> , anaphylaxis, latex free, latex safe, sensitivity, transfusion reaction	AORN Guideline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe environment of care, Part 1, pp. 255-257</li> </ul> <i>Alexander's</i> : Chapter 3, pp. 48-49; Chapter 4, p. 95
2. Prepare for and manage cardiac arrest	Advanced cardiac life support, basic life support, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, ischemia, myocardial infarction	B&K: Chapter 31, pp. 599-606

3. Prepare for and manage Malignant Hyperthermia	Acidosis, calcium, Dantrium, dantrolene sodium, dysrhythmia, hypercarbia, hyperkalemia, hypermetabolic, hyperthermia, tachycardia, trigger	Alexander's: Chapter 5, pp. 138-139; Chapter 26, p. 1008
4. Prepare for and manage respiratory complications	Airway obstruction, anoxia, arterial blood gas, aspiration, atelectasis, bronchospasm, difficult airway, hypoxia, laryngospasm, pneumothorax, pulmonary edema, pulmonary embolism	Alexander's: Chapter 5, pp. 124-129; Chapter 10, pp. 265-266; 272
5. Prepare for and manage victims of trauma	ARDS, autotransfusion, blunt trauma, DIC, diagnostic tests, DNR, end of life care, MAST, mechanism of injury, multisystem, organ donor, rapid sequence intubation, <b>shock</b> , trauma, traumatic brain injury, triage	Alexander's: Chapter 26, pp. 1051-1053 B&K: Chapter 3, pp. 51-52; Chapter 7, pp. 113-117; Chapter 29, pp. 568-569; Chapter 37, p. 773; Chapter 45, pp. 933-941
6. Prepare for and manage <b>fire</b>	Burn, explosion, flammable, fuel, ignition source, oxygen, RACE, PASS, thermal injury	AORN Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy-Generating Devices, p. 131-134</li> <li>• Environment of Care, Part 1, pp. 246-250</li> </ul> Alexander's: Chapter 2, pp. 28-29; Chapter 8, pp. 235-236; Chapter 19, p. 630
7. Prepare for and manage terrorism	Bioterrorism, bomb, mass casualty	Alexander's: Chapter 4, pp. 67-69 B&K: Chapter 14, pp. 246-247

## Subject Area 8: Management of Personnel, Services, and Materials 6%

### General Chapter Readings:

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*: Chapter 1

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*: Chapter 6

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Management of the interdisciplinary team	Allied health care providers, competency, delegation, mentor, management, patient acuity, scope of practice, staff education, supervision, support personnel, UAP	<p>AORN. (2018). Perioperative explications for ANA Code of Ethics. Found at <a href="http://www.aorn.org">www.aorn.org</a>, Clinical Resources, Code of Ethics (Member only).</p> <p>AORN Position Statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe Staffing and On-Call Practices</li> <li>• Responsibility for Mentoring</li> </ul> <p>B&amp;K: Chapters 2, 4</p> <p>National Council of State Boards of Nursing, <a href="https://www.ncsbn.org/1625.htm">https://www.ncsbn.org/1625.htm</a></p>
2. Principles of product evaluation and cost containment	Cost containment, environmental consciousness (go green), fiscal responsibility, product evaluation, product selection, recycling, reprocess, resource management, single-use device, supply management	<p>AORN Guidelines for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sterilization</li> <li>• Product Selection</li> </ul> <p>AORN Position Statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Responsibility</li> <li>• Healthy Perioperative Practice Environment</li> </ul> <p>Alexander's: Chapter 4, p. 84 B&amp;K: Chapter 17, pp. 297-299; Chapter 25, pp. 477-478</p>
3. Management of ancillary personnel in the perioperative setting	Accountability, ethics, family, health care industry representative, <b>loaner instrumentation</b> , patient rights, patient privacy, student, vendor, visitor	<p>AORN Position Statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of the Healthcare Industry Representative in the Perioperative Setting</li> <li>• Allied Health Care Providers and Support Personnel in the Perioperative Setting</li> <li>• Value of Clinical Learning Activities in the Periop Setting in Undergraduate Nursing Curricula</li> </ul> <p>Alexander's: Chapter 2 B&amp;K: Chapter 1</p>
4. Management of environment of care	Biologic implants, <b>PPE</b> , preventive maintenance, room turnover, spills, terminal cleaning	<p>AORN Guidelines: Environmental Cleaning; Autologous tissue management</p> <p>Alexander's: Chapter 4, pp. 103-104 B&amp;K: Chapter 12; Chapter 28, pp. 553-557</p>

## Subject Area 9: Professional Accountability 9%

### General Chapter Readings:

AORN. (2018). *Perioperative explications for ANA Code of Ethics*. Found at [www.aorn.org](http://www.aorn.org), Clinical resources, Code of Ethics (member only)

*Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*: Chapter 1

*Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*: Chapters 2, 4, 6

Topic	Key Words	Additional Readings
1. Principles of social policy	Accrediting agency, <b>advocacy</b> , best practice, board of nursing, community standard, evidence-based practice, guidelines, nurse practice act, patient rights, position statement, recommended practices, regulation, regulatory standards, scope of practice, standard, statute	See Primary General Readings
2. Resources for professional growth	Best practice, certification, competency, continuing education, life-long learning, professional organization, self-assessment, staff education	See Primary General Readings AORN Position Statement: Perioperative Nursing Certification
3. Participation in quality improvement activities	Audit, best practice, change, evidence-based practice, information literacy, measures, performance improvement, Plan-Do-Study-Act, quality assurance, quality improvement, research, risk management, shared governance	See Primary General Readings
4. Facilitating professional behavior	Chain of command, collegiality, <b>confidentiality</b> , culture of safety, <b>delegation</b> , ethics, healthy work environment, horizontal violence, just culture, lateral violence, <b>patient advocate</b> , professional growth, professional standards	AORN Position Statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminalization of Human Errors</li> </ul> AORN Endorsed Document: ANA Position Statement on Incivility, Bullying, and Workplace Violence B&K: Chapters 1,3