California Administrative Code Title 22, § 70217

Official California Code of Regulations; Title 22. Social Security; Division 5. Licensing and Certification of Health Facilities, Home Health Agencies, Clinics, and Referral Agencies; Chapter 1. General Acute Care Hospitals; Article 3. Basic Services

§ 70217. Nursing Service Staff.

(a) Hospitals shall provide staffing by licensed nurses, within the scope of their licensure in accordance with the following nurse-to-patient ratios. Licensed nurse means a registered nurse, licensed vocational nurse and, in psychiatric units only, a licensed psychiatric technician. Staffing for care not requiring a licensed nurse is not included within these ratios and shall be determined pursuant to the patient classification system.

(2) The surgical service operating room shall have at least one registered nurse assigned to the duties of the circulating nurse and a minimum of one additional person serving as scrub assistant for each patient-occupied operating room. The scrub assistant may be a licensed nurse, an operating room technician, or other person who has demonstrated current competence to the hospital as a scrub assistant, but shall not be a physician or other licensed health professional who is assisting in the performance of surgery.

§ 70225. Surgical Service Staff

(d) There shall be sufficient nursing personnel so that one person is not serving as circulating assistant for more than one operating room.
§ 79733. Outpatient Surgical Care Staff.

(a) A physician shall have overall responsibility for the surgical service. This physician shall be certified or eligible for certification in surgery by the American Board of Surgery or the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery. If such a surgeon is not available, a physician, with additional training and experience in surgery, shall be responsible for the service.

(b) A registered nurse with training and experience in operating room techniques shall be responsible for the nursing care and nursing management of the operating room service.

(c) There shall be registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, and operating room technicians the appropriate ratio to ensure that a registered nurse is available at all times to serve as the circulating assistant when a licensed vocational nurse or operating room technicians is serving as a scrub assistant.

(d) There must be a registered nurse available for emergency treatment whenever there is an outpatient surgical care patient in the correctional treatment center.

(e) The correctional treatment center shall maintain records of continuing education and training programs for the nursing staff to be available to the Department upon request.