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Application of Aseptic Technique to all Patients Position Statement

It is the position of the Association of Surgical Technologists that the surgical technologist is responsible for enforcing and practicing the uniform principles of aseptic technique for all patients, regardless of their gender, religion, handicap(s) or background; the principles of aseptic technique should be applied to all patients.

The three basic principles of asepsis, as stated in the *Core Curriculum for Surgical Technology* to be applied to all patients are: Principle I: A sterile field is created for each surgical procedure; Principle II: Sterile team members must be appropriately attired prior to entering the sterile field; Principle III: Movement in and around the sterile field must not compromise the field. These principles form the basis for the development of surgical conscience as applied to the surgical treatment of patients.

Therefore, surgical technologists who have attended a CAAHEP-accredited surgical technology program are prepared to apply the principles of aseptic practice to all patients to aid in the reduction of postoperative surgical site infections.

