

Adopted October 2005



POSITION STATEMENT SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST PREOPERATIVE PREPARATION FOR SURGICAL PROCEDURE

An important aspect related to performing the role of the surgical technologist is the preoperative preparation for the surgical procedure. The Association of Surgical Technologists recognizes that preoperative preparation involves an understanding of the procedure and required instrumentation, supplies and equipment, and room preparation, but also supports the surgical technologist performing additional preoperative requirements, including review of the patient chart to ensure all necessary documents are present, review of lab values and other diagnostic information, and preparation of the discharge plan.

Therefore, it is the position of AST that the individual who has graduated from a CAAHEP-accredited program and attained the credential CST, or CFA, has the knowledge and experience to perform those preoperative patient care duties, as outlined in the *Core Curriculum for Surgical Technology* and *Core Curriculum for Surgical Assisting*.