Surgical Technology Program
End of Program
Clinical Performance Competency Checklist

Student Name: ___________________
Date: _________________
Conference Date: _________________

Rating Scale:  0 = Not Performed  1 = With Assistance  2 = Independent

I. Aseptic Technique
   a. Wears proper O.R. attire with protective eyewear 0 1 2
   b. Infection Control
      1. Separates clean from dirty 0 1 2
      2. Damp dusts equipment from outside the department 0 1 2
      3. Keeps doors closed 0 1 2
      4. Keeps movement and conversation to a minimum 0 1 2
      5. Cleans organic spills immediately 0 1 2
      6. Uses kick buckets for dirty sponges 0 1 2
      7. Reports infections identified in the O.R. 0 1 2
      8. Faces sterile area when passing 0 1 2
      9. Does not walk between two sterile areas 0 1 2
     10. Maintains distance of 12” from sterile areas 0 1 2
     11. Identifies and corrects breaks in sterile technique 0 1 2
     12. Does not shake or beat linens 0 1 2
   c. Sterile Supplies
      1. Checks package integrity (stains, indicator, holes, exp.) 0 1 2
      2. Used folded back tabs for opening 0 1 2
      3. Opens away from the body 0 1 2
      4. Maintains control of wrapper edges 0 1 2
      5. Does not reach over sterile field 0 1 2
      6. Does not touch wrapper to sterile area 0 1 2
      7. Flips, tosses, hands sterile items 0 1 2
      8. Checks solutions for label, seal, clarity, date 0 1 2
      9. Does not allow splashing or dripping when pouring 0 1 2
   d. Sterilization Processes
      1. Differentiates steam, EtO, cold sterilization 0 1 2
      2. Identifies items that can be steamed 0 1 2
      3. Identifies items that MUST be gassed 0 1 2
      4. Identifies items that can be cold sterilized 0 1 2
      5. Uses “flash” sterilization appropriately (time, temp., Indicator, removal) 0 1 2
      6. Uses cold sterilization appropriately (time, mixing, exp. date, rinsing) 0 1 2

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7. Differentiates one-month & six-month exp. Dates
(double wrapped, heat sealed, dust cover) 0 1 2
(a) Not applicable if event-related sterility policy
utilized by hospital

    e. Comments:

II. Surgical Shave

a. Checks with physician or chart for order 0 1 2
b. Performs shave 0 1 2
c. Removes loose hair from area 0 1 2
d. Reports any knicks or cuts 0 1 2
e. Comments:

III. Surgical Skin Prep

a. Procedure

1. Identifies outer parameter of prep 0 1 2
2. Selects appropriate tray/solution 0 1 2
3. Preps from incision to periphery 0 1 2
4. Uses circular, scrubbing motion 0 1 2
5. Blots excess moisture 0 1 2
6. Uses stick sponge for paint 0 1 2
7. Paints from incision to periphery 0 1 2
8. Used circular, spiral motion for extremities 0 1 2
9. Preps for 5 minutes or according to hospital policy 0 1 2
10. Does not allow solutions to pool 0 1 2

b. Types of Preps

1. Abdominal or back 0 1 2
2. Vaginal 0 1 2
3. Extremity 0 1 2
4. Hip 0 1 2
5. Ear 0 1 2
6. Head 0 1 2
7. Face 0 1 2
8. Other: 0 1 2
c. Comments:
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IV. Electrical Surgical Unit (ESU)
   a. Checks unit for safety  0 1 2
   b. Selects proper mode (monopolar, bipolar)  0 1 2
   c. Selects proper settings  0 1 2
   d. Places and connects grounding pad  0 1 2
   e. Identifies and connects appropriate active electrode  0 1 2
   f. Determine when to use foot pedals  0 1 2
   g. Inspects area after removal of grounding pad  0 1 2
   h. Comments:

V. Positioning
   a. Procedure
      1. Identifies position for surgical procedure  0 1 2
      2. Selects and applies table attachments and supplies  0 1 2
      3. Confirms with anesthesia before moving patient  0 1 2
      4. Moves patient slowly and gently  0 1 2
      5. Pads pressure areas  0 1 2
      6. Pads bony prominences  0 1 2
      7. Assures breasts, scrotum, penis are free from pressure  0 1 2
      8. Assures feet, toes, ankles, knees are free from pressure  0 1 2
      9. Assures good anatomical alignment  0 1 2
     10. Assures good physiological function  0 1 2
     11. Assures patient safety  0 1 2
     12. Maintains patient dignity  0 1 2
     13. Provides accessibility of the operative field  0 1 2
   b. Positions
      1. Supine  0 1 2
      2. Trendelenburg  0 1 2
      3. Reverse Trendelenburg  0 1 2
      4. Fowlers  0 1 2
      5. Sitting  0 1 2
      6. Prone  0 1 2
      7. Jackknife (Kraske)  0 1 2
      8. Lithotomy  0 1 2
      9. Lateral  0 1 2
     10. Modified supine (frog leg)  0 1 2
     11. Fracture table – supine  0 1 2
     12. Fracture table – lateral  0 1 2
   c. Comments:
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VI. Sponge, Needle, Instrument Counts
   a. Counts on appropriate surgical procedures 0 1 2
   b. Counts out loud with appropriate person 0 1 2
   c. Isolates incorrectly numbered packages 0 1 2
   d. Counts in a timely manner (before incision, before cavity closure, before skin closure completed) 0 1 2
   e. Records counts immediately after being taken 0 1 2
   f. Notifies appropriate person(s) of incorrect counts 0 1 2
   g. Takes appropriate measures to resolve incorrect counts 0 1 2
   h. Signs / initial incident report for unresolved counts 0 1 2
   i. Assures that counted items never leave the operating room 0 1 2
   j. Comments:

VII. Suture and Needles
   a. Differentiates absorbable versus non-absorbable sutures 0 1 2
   b. Differentiates cutting versus taper needles 0 1 2
   c. Differentiates ties versus swaged sutures 0 1 2
   d. Identifies multipack sutures 0 1 2
   e. Identifies control release sutures 0 1 2
   f. Identifies double-armed sutures 0 1 2
   g. Determines suture and needle sized for intended use 0 1 2
   h. Makes appropriate suture and needle substitutions 0 1 2
   i. Comments:

VIII. Sterile Core
   a. Checks case carts for outdated if applicable (event-related Sterility) 0 1 2
   b. Make appropriate adjustments to complete case carts 0 1 2
   c. Assures case carts are available in a timely manner 0 1 2
   d. Assures sterile supplies are available 0 1 2
   e. Checks crash cart and defibrillator for completeness 0 1 2
   f. Keeps sterile area free of extra supplies 0 1 2
   g. Comments:
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IX. In-patient Holding
   a. Makes suggestions concerning preoperative patient assessment to licensed person 0 1 2
   b. Provides emotional support to patients 0 1 2
   c. Reviews chart for completeness 0 1 2
   d. Reconciles differences between O.R. schedule & consent 0 1 2
   e. Stamps appropriate forms 0 1 2
   f. Alerts appropriate person(s) of unusual occurrences 0 1 2
   g. Initiates appropriate QA forms 0 1 2
   h. Assures supplies are available (O₂, linen, etc). 0 1 2
   i. Performs surgical shaves 0 1 2
   j. Comments:

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X. Circulating Responsibilities
   a. Preoperative
      1. Procures equipment and supplies based on patient needs 0 1 2
      2. Assures equipment is in good working order 0 1 2
      3. Creates and maintains a sterile field 0 1 2
      4. Uses resources to prepare for procedures (kardex, preceptor) 0 1 2
      5. Performs initial count according to policy 0 1 2
      6. Assesses physiological health status of patient
         (a) identifies patient 0 1 2
         (b) introduces self to patient 0 1 2
         (c) verifies procedure and checks consent 0 1 2
         (d) transfers patient to O.R. bed with assistance 0 1 2
         (e) notes allergies 0 1 2
         (f) notes skin condition 0 1 2
         (g) notes patient limitations 0 1 2
         (h) reviews health data for normal ranges 0 1 2
         (i) communicates pertinent data 0 1 2
         (j) provides emotional support to patient 0 1 2
         (k) provides for patient safety 0 1 2
         (l) maintains patient dignity 0 1 2
   b. Intraoperative
      1. Assists anesthesia 0 1 2
      2. Prepares patient for procedure (position, ESU, prep) 0 1 2
      3. Anticipates additional patient needs 0 1 2
      4. Identifies and corrects breaks in sterile technique 0 1 2
      5. Documents according to policy 0 1 2
      6. Sets priorities 0 1 2
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7. Distributes medications according to policy 0 1 2
8. Operates equipment according to policy & mfr’s. recommendations 0 1 2
9. Uses equipment & supplies in cost effective manner 0 1 2
10. Cares for specimens according to policy 0 1 2
11. Performs counts according to policy 0 1 2
13. Assists in monitoring patient’s physiological status (EKG, BP, pulse oximeter) 0 1 2
14. Adheres to O.R. sanitation policies 0 1 2
15. Prepares for potential emergencies 0 1 2

C. Postoperative
1. Secures dressings, tubes, drains 0 1 2
2. Assists in determining patient response to surgery 0 1 2
3. Assists in transferring patient to stretcher 0 1 2
4. Assists in transporting patient to postop area 0 1 2
5. Maintains patient confidentiality 0 1 2
6. Makes appropriate revisions in care plan 0 1 2
7. Removes & reports malfunctioning equipment 0 1 2
8. Returns equipment & supplies to appropriate area 0 1 2
9. Prepares for the next assignment 0 1 2

D. Comments:

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XI. Scrub Responsibilities
a. Preoperative
1. Assists in procuring equipment and supplies 0 1 2
2. Uses resources to prepare for procedures 0 1 2
3. Assists in creating and maintaining sterile field 0 1 2
4. Scrubs, gowns, gloves self according to policy 0 1 2
5. Prepares for procedure (instruments, sutures, etc.) 0 1 2
6. Requests additional items based on patient needs 0 1 2
7. Performs initial count according to policy 0 1 2
8. Verifies patient and procedure 0 1 2

b. Intraoperative
1. Gowns, gloves, surgeon(s) 0 1 2
2. Assists with draping 0 1 2
3. Arranges sterile field in appropriate manner 0 1 2
4. Identifies and corrects breaks in sterile technique 0 1 2
5. Stays focused on surgical procedure 0 1 2
6. Anticipates needs 0 1 2
7. Operates equipment according to policy & mfr’s. recommendations 0 1 2
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8. Passes instruments in correct manner 0 1 2
9. Uses equipment and supplies in cost effective manner 0 1 2
10. Cares for specimens according to policy 0 1 2
11. Performs role of second scrub 0 1 2
12. Adheres to O.R. sanitation policies 0 1 2
13. Prepares for potential emergencies 0 1 2

c. Postoperative
1. Applies dressings, connects drains, tubes 0 1 2
2. Cares for instruments & equipment according to policy 0 1 2
3. Assists with transfer of patient to stretcher 0 1 2
4. Makes appropriate revisions to care plan 0 1 2
5. Removes & reports malfunctioning equipment 0 1 2
6. Returns equipment & supplies to appropriate area 0 1 2
7. Prepares for next assignment 0 1 2

Comments:
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TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 366

REQUIRED POINTS FOR SATISFACTORY RATING: 279

STUDENT SCORE:

GRADE: Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Student Signature: __________________________

Instructor Signature: _________________________

Date: ___________________