

CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR

Surgical Technology

General Description

The Clinical Instructor will be a clinical resource person for the Surgical Technology students and will be responsible for their assignments and clinical evaluations.

Specific Qualifications

The Clinical Instructor will be designated by the hospital and should possess a minimum of three (3) years current experience as a CST in the Operating Room or a minimum of three (3) years current experience in the Operating Room as an R.N. who possesses proficient scrubbing skills and a sound knowledge base of the procedural techniques applied in surgery. Must have current certification or licensure. Will collaborate with the Clinical Manager, the Schedule Coordinator and/or the Educational Coordinator for the Operating Room. Will possess good interpersonal skills in relating to students, clinical personnel and physicians.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Orients new students to the department, including the hospital's job description for Surgical Technologists, the Policy and Procedure Manual, the availability and location of educational resources, and all safety precautions and emergency protocols.
2. Makes arrangements for the individual preceptor(s) for each student.
3. Assigns appropriate cases to each student.
4. Alters assignments as necessary to suit student needs.
5. Monitors each student's progress throughout the course of the day.
6. Makes himself/herself available for students' questions and learning needs.
7. Exhibits professional behavior and serves as a role model for students.
8. Promotes patient and student safety.
9. Creates a positive and supportive learning environment, including being an advocate for the student's status as a learner.

10. Makes systematic observations and objective judgments about student performance.
11. Meets with each student individually once a week.
12. Gives each student timely feedback about his/her performance, providing suggestions for improvement.
13. Meets regularly with the Program/Clinical Coordinator to maintain productive two-way communication between the program and Operating Room personnel.
14. Discusses student evaluation with each student's preceptor(s).
15. At the end of each rotation, prepares (or supervises the preparation of) a Clinical Evaluation Form, documenting the progress of each student.
16. At the end of each rotation, discusses the Clinical Evaluation Form with each student, attempting to provide guidance for future performance.
17. Provides feedback to the program about current department/hospital policies or changes in practice in the field and makes suggestions for program modifications or improvement.
18. Participates in continuing education seminars and in professional development opportunities in order to maintain current state-of-the-art knowledge and skills.
19. Attends two (2) meetings a year with the Program Coordinator and the other Clinical Instructors to discuss program goals, policies and educational methodologies.

Note: It is recognized that division of the duties of the Clinical Instructor and those of the individual student's preceptor may vary among departments. Therefore, some of the duties listed for the Clinical Instructor may be delegated to the staff members who are acting as preceptors (e.g. determining individual student case assignments and monitoring and assessing student progress, conducting weekly evaluation conferences with each student, providing guidance and suggestions for student improvement, and completing the Clinical Evaluation Form) but the responsibility for assuring that these activities occur remains with the Clinical Instructor.