EMBRACING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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Position Statement on Surgical Technologists
Skills Utilized in Healthcare Facility Departments
IT IS THE POSITION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS THAT... the individual who has graduated from a CAAHEP-accredited program and attained the credential of CST has the knowledge and skills that can be utilized in other healthcare facility (HCF) departments during periods of healthcare practitioner (HCP) shortages, such as during a healthcare crisis, and if necessary, add to those skills by completing healthcare facility (HCF) training.
DEPARTMENTS ADDRESSED:

STERILE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

INFECTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT

LABOR & DELIVERY

POSITIONING TEAMS

Electronic Health Record Entries, Completing Physician Orders, and Giving Injections
STERILE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT: SPD

- Processing instruments and devices
- Department supervisor (leadership and management skills learned with experience as a practitioner and possibly completing a higher degree).
- Monitoring and recording vital signs
- Inserting urinary catheters
- Assist ED physician with invasive procedures
- Perform venipuncture for the purpose of continuous IV therapy (complete HCF training – see AST Performing Venipuncture Position Statement).
INFECTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT: ICD

Monitor compliance with infection control protocols within the healthcare facility during healthcare crises

Provide training in other departments regarding infection control techniques
LABOR AND DELIVERY: L&D

- Monitor patients in labor and document information in electronic health record (EHR) (complete HCF training).
- Assist with deliveries
Lab

- Perform Phlebotomy draws
- Enter orders
- Transport specimens
- Assist with re-positioning of patients who are bed bound due to illness.
- Assist with ambulation of patients who are mobile and well enough to be up.

  - Helps to alleviate demand to nursing staff who may have a high patient load.
Administrative Assistance

Enter standing orders in patient’s EHR.
Blood Pressure Checks
Injections
Clinic Record Keeping

COVID Screening & Injections
Collect Specimens
Enter orders
Assist with injections
Monitor reactions
Transportation

Move patients from department to department within the hospital.

Help with transporting items and supplies between locations within a network.
Surgical Assistant
• Advising and training hospital staff on new products
• Travel to clinical facilities within a specified area
  • May require further education in business
Education

- Clinical Instructor
- Lab Instructor/Assistant
- Didactic Instructor
- Program Director - w/ experience
THE NUMBERS:

• Projections Data for 2020-2030
• Current Employment (2020) Data: 109,700
• Projected Employment (2030): 119,200 Increase of 9%

Current CST’s per NBSTSA: 67,370
Current Members of AST per AST: 47,102
Current accredited programs per ARC: 406

We are many strong!