

## **Intro to Surgical Technology – 4 credits**

### Competencies

1. **Scope of practice and Affective Behaviors** – Identify responsible and accountable behavior within the role and competencies of the surgical technologist.
2. **Hospital organization and management** – Identify roles of team members, chain of command in the operating room, and hospital departments that relate to direct and indirect patient care.
3. **Patient identification** – State the purposes of proper identification.
4. **Perioperative Case Management** – Describe the physical preparation and care that the surgical patient may receive prior to the surgical procedure.
5. **Documentation and Consent** - Summarize the recommended practices and legal elements of proper documentation including informed consent.
6. **Death and dying** – Describe the responses to the process of death in the operating room and various coping strategies and mechanisms.
7. **Information management** – Apply information effectively in a variety of formats- including written, verbal and electronic.
8. **Professional management** – Discuss the various functions of professional credentialing and organizations related to the field of surgical technology.
9. **Group dynamics and team work** – Acknowledge the importance of cooperative behavior by group members to accomplish common team goals.
10. **Leadership** – Describe effective leadership, communication styles and management.
11. **Ethical and moral issues** – Develop surgical conscience by analyzing the role of morality during ethical decision making.
12. **Legal issues** – Interpret the legal responsibilities and professional standards of conduct for surgical team members.
13. **Risk management and liability**- Identify preventative measures for common errors that occur in the operating room and possible appropriate responses.
14. **Biopsychosocial needs of the patient**- Identify appropriate behavior in response to the needs manifested by the surgical patient and their significant others.
15. **Health and wellness**- Discuss the components of physical and mental health and the effects of stress on various body systems.
16. **PACU** – Identify necessary equipment in the PACU and potential postoperative complications of the surgical patient.
17. **Physical environment** – Describe a basic surgical suite including environmental systems and controls.
18. **Safety (Physical Environment)** – Describe environmental safety controls and guideline including potential hazards to the surgical patient.
19. **Information technology skills** – Demonstrate the use of computer skills and access information.
20. **Discharge Planning** – Describe the process of discharge planning of the surgical patient.
21. **Electricity** – Describe essential electrical knowledge for safe patient care practices in the OR.
22. **All Hazards Preparation** – Identify essential components of all hazards preparation.

A detailed list of competences are listed in the 2013 CST Candidate Handbook 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting, National Examination for the Certified Surgical Technologist and may be found by contacting the NBSTSA at 800.707.0057 or [mail@nbstsa.org](mailto:mail@nbstsa.org) or [www.nbstsa.org](http://www.nbstsa.org).

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