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 1st 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 or www.nbstsa.org.

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