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Owner: Chase Walters: Director,
Education
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References:

Scrub Nurse/Tech Responsibilities, 88.02.00

Document Type: Policy

SUPERSEDES: 3/08, 7/05, 5/04, 4/02, 4/99

POLICY:

A scrub nurse/tech will assist the surgeon as much as possible, within limitations, to facilitate the operation without incident for the optimum results for the patient. At Kadlec Regional Medical Center, registered nurses and/or surgical technicians who have completed the proper orientation may perform in the scrub role.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Gather all instruments, sutures, drapes, etc. and set up scrub table in an aseptic manner.
2. Complete surgical hand scrub before donning sterile gown and gloves.
3. Gown and glove doctors.
4. Perform an initial sponge, needle, and instrument count as described in count procedure.
5. With the circulator, concurrently verify the name, concentration and expiration date of medications and fluids passed to the sterile field. Ensure medications and fluids passed to the sterile field are properly labeled with the solution name and concentration. Label syringes, basins and all other containers that may hold medications or therapeutic fluids. Clearly communicate with operative team regarding medications in delivery hand-offs and administration.
6. Arrange instruments and supplies so that they are easily accessible.
7. Knowledge of specific instruments and suture used for the procedure to be done.
8. Assist in the proper draping of the patient to insure sterile operating area.
9. Have all instruments ready when the surgeon needs them and to anticipate those needs.
10. Ensure aseptic techniques are carried out at all times. If a break in sterile technique occurs, it is the duty of the scrub nurse/tech to report and remedy the problem.
11. Clearly communicate with surgeon and circulator regarding specimen preparation as applicable. Inquire as to how specimen(s) will be labeled and how it is to be sent to the receiving department (lab, pathology, radiology, mammography, etc.). If specimen is routine (placed in formalin), it will be taken to the OR utility room, placed in the appropriate bin with requisition slip and noted in the specimen log book.
12. Complete the appropriate sponge, sharp, and instrument counts as described in the count procedure.

13. Close skin with automatic skin stapler, when indicated as directed by licensed independent practitioner.
14. Dress the wound using aseptic technique and according to the surgeon's preference.
15. Remove drapes rolling away from wound, containing any fluids, blood, etc., that might be in the drapes and dispose of them.
16. Instruments taken to decontamination area covered and sharps disposed of in appropriate container. See OR Instrument Cleaning Policy # 30.13.13.
17. At times of temporary and permanent relief by another scrub nurse/tech, provide a report of the progress of the procedure, a review of the sterile field setup, medications/fluids on the sterile field, any special needs or requests of the surgeon, and any other pertinent information deemed necessary.
18. Scrub nurse/tech will perform duties only within their scope of practice.

REFERENCES:

Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery, Jane C Rothrock; Elsevier / Mosby, 2011 Surgical Technology for the Surgical Technologist, A Positive Care Approach, AST, Inc; 2004

Attachments:

No Attachments

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