

**NAME OF HOSPITAL, PERIOPERATIVE SERVICES, OR
CIRCULATOR ROLE COMPETENCY TOOL**

NAME _____ **TITLE** _____

has been properly instructed, clinically supervised, and is authorized to perform or assist in the performance of the following skills/procedures:

COMPETENCY STATEMENTS	VERBALIZED/ DEMONSTRATED (Date)	PRECEPTOR INITIALS
1. Competency to create and maintain a sterile field:		
a. Maintains adequate distance when passing sterile field.		
b. Reports any break in technique with proper follow-up.		
c. Opens sterile supplies to field without contamination after verifying sterile indicators and dates.		
d. Assists scrubbed personnel without contamination.		
e. Follows AORN recommended guidelines regarding sterile technique.		
2. Competency to provide equipment and supplies based on patient needs:		
a. Selects appropriate Surgeon's Preference Card for each procedure.		
b. Locates and assembles all necessary supplies and anticipated supplies.		
c. Makes changes on preference card if pertains to all future cases and dates and initials. Rewrites cards as indicated to keep current		
d. Initials off on workroom list and board in hall that case is pulled.		
e. Assists in opening case after verifying sterility of supplies.		

COMPETENCY STATEMENTS	VERBALIZED/ DEMONSTRATED (Date)	PRECEPTOR INITIALS
f. Have standard OR equipment available and in working order (such as cautery, suction, positioning devices, platforms, laser, stools, etc.).		
g. Damp dust room surfaces before first case of the day.		
h. Provide warm sheets for patient comfort.		
i. Stands by for patient support and assistance during intubation, or extubation, if needed.		
3. Competency to assess patient status:		
a. Assures that all necessary paperwork is in place before transferring the patient to the OR (Informed consent, H&P, pre-op checklist, allergy record, special orders, etc). If incomplete, obtain missing documents before entering OR.		
b. Confirms patient identity by wristband, chart, and verbally.		
c. Notes condition of skin.		
d. Notes readiness for surgery (psychosocial status).		
4. Competency to implement nursing actions for safe patient transfer:		
a. Assures that OR table and stretcher are locked prior to transfer.		
b. Assures enough personnel are available for safety.		
c. Applies safety strap immediately after transfer to OR table and raises side rails immediately after transfer to bed or stretcher.		
d. Accompanies CRNA for patient transfer to post-op unit (PACU, OPSU, ICU) and gives brief report to receiving nurse (listen to CRNA report and add only pertinent data not already given).		

COMPETENCY STATEMENTS	VERBALIZED/ DEMONSTRATED (Date)	PRECEPTOR INITIALS
5. Competency to perform sponge, sharps, and instrument counts:		
a. Follows established policies and procedures for counts.		
b. Initiates corrective actions when counts are incorrect.		
c. Communicates/documents results according to hospital policy.		
6. Competency to perform proper positioning of patient:		
a. Assures that necessary positioning devices/aids are in room before case (arm table, sitting stools, table pieces, stirrups, stirrup pads, eggcrate foam, pillows, etc.)		
b. Verifies position for procedure according to Surgeon's Preference Card or asks Surgeon.		
c. Positions patient correctly with attention given to potential pressure points, contact with metal surfaces, and other safety points.		
7. Competency to provide adequate skin preparation of patient:		
a. Verifies preference on Surgeon's Preference Card and note any allergies prior to beginning prep		
b. Performs a wet shave if shave prep is indicated.		
c. Follows AORN recommended guidelines and OR inservices for prepping methods		
8. Competency to develop a nursing plan of care to achieve patient and departmental goals:		
a. Informs NM when patient is in the OR, when ready for anesthesiologist, when ready for surgeon, when closing, and when case is finished.		
b. Informs of special messages such as need for ICU bed, or crib, or to bypass PACU.		

COMPETENCY STATEMENTS	VERBALIZED/ DEMONSTRATED (Date)	PRECEPTOR INITIALS
c. Establishes priorities for nursing actions and organizes activities in a logical sequence.		
d. Controls environment - maintains quiet during beginning and ending of procedure, maintains appropriate temperature, maintains orderliness of room.		
e. Assigns or delegates activities to personnel according to their qualifications and patient needs.		
f. Prepares for potential emergencies.		
9. Competency to perform adequate documentation of nursing care:		
a. Charting reflects completeness, conciseness, and neatness.		
b. Performs efficient, proper periop documentation and signs printed forms.		
c. Uses only black ink.		
d. Error correction is made with a single line through entry and initials.		
10. Competency to perform proper specimen handling:		
a. All specimens are handled according to guidelines from the lab after verification from scrub nurse or surgeon as to tissue identification and desired tissue request (permanent specimen, fresh, frozen section, culture, etc.)		
b. Universal precautions are observed and appropriate PPE utilized.		
11. Competency to perform proper post-procedure duties:		
a. Return or discard any unused supplies after a case		
b. Restock OR at the end of the day for supplies used during cases		

COMPETENCY STATEMENTS	VERBALIZED/ DEMONSTRATED (Date)	PRECEPTOR INITIALS
c. Return equipment to storage areas (laparoscopic carts, laser, headlights, etc.)		

LIMITATIONS/Comments: _____

Signature of Employee

Date

Signature of Preceptor

Date

Signature of Clinical Nurse Educator

Date