

Principles and Practices of ST – 5 credits

Competencies

1. **Postoperative case management** – Identify proper technique for post operative management duties.
2. **Homeostasis** – Describe the homeostatic parameters monitored in the OR setting.
3. **Asepsis and sterile technique** – Discuss terms related to asepsis and sources of contamination.
4. **Attire** – Recognize appropriate surgical attire.
5. **Decontamination/disinfection** – Discuss the factors and variables of disinfection and decontamination of the OR environment and instruments.
6. **Emergency procedures** – Describe the procedures carried out in the OR related to emergency procedures (hemolytic reactions, anaphylactic reaction, malignant hypothermia, cardiac arrest)
7. **Positioning** – Explain basic surgical positioning and the components needed for safe positioning.
8. **Skin preparation** – Describe the steps and rationales for surgical skin preparation.
9. **Sterile storage and distribution** – Identify proper technique in storing, handling, and distributing sterile supplies.
10. **Review of the chart** – Recognize common pre operative lab tests and appropriate documentation.
11. **Instrumentation** – Identify the classifications, names, parts, materials, finishes and uses of basic surgical instrumentation.
12. **Tissue approximation** – Identify proper selection, preparation, handling techniques for the various methods of tissue approximation.
13. **Draping** – Describe the general principles of draping the patient, equipment and furniture.
14. **Preparation of sterile field** – Identify techniques for preparing instruments and supplies on the sterile field.
15. **Scrubbing** – Describe the appropriate technique of the surgical hand scrub.
16. **Gowning and gloving** – Describe the proper technique for gowning and gloving self, open gloving, and gowning and gloving another.
17. **Room preparation and Equipment** – Identify the use of various supplies and equipment in the operative environment.
18. **Case selection** – Identify sources of information for gathering the required instruments, supplies and equipment needed for a surgical procedure.
19. **Reprocessing (sterilization)** – Identify the methods of processing items during terminal sterilization and/or disinfection.
20. **Transfer** – Identify equipment and technique utilized for safe transfer of the surgical patient.
21. **Counts** – Describe the procedures for counting instruments, sponges, needles and other items on the field.
22. **Specimen care** – Describe the handling of tissue specimens.
23. **Hemostasis** - Identify the principles and methods of hemostasis.

24. **Transportation** - Identify methods of patient transportation.
25. **Blood replacement** – Describe various methods of blood and fluid volume replacement.
26. **Catheters and drains** – Identify types of catheters and drains and their uses on the surgical patient.
27. **Urinary catheterization** – Discuss the basic considerations for urinary catheterization.
28. **Surgical wound classification** – Evaluate the classifications of surgical wounds.
29. **Wound healing** – Identify factors that influence wound healing.
30. **Tissue Replacement materials** – Describe/discuss tissue replacement materials.

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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