Surgical Technologist Practicum Objectives

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Guide to Practicum Forms
Objectives of Practicum Rotation

- Use medical terminology correctly.
- Demonstrate knowledge of body organization and terms of reference.
- Discuss the relationship between humans and pathogenic and non-pathogenic bacteria.
- Demonstrate knowledge and ability to accurately calculate dosages of liquids and solids. Demonstrate procedures for the care and handling of drugs and solutions.
- Assess the patient’s responses to illness and hospitalization to include assessment of the physical, spiritual, and psychological needs of the patient.
- Demonstrate the process used to obtain an informed consent for a surgical procedure or treatment.
- Demonstrate the required pre-, intra-, and postoperative routines, i.e. chart review; patient identification; patient transportation; surgical positioning; operative site preparation; handling, labeling, and containment of specimens; use of thermoregulatory devices; vital sign measurement and recording; case documentation; etc.
- Apply the concepts of asepsis, i.e. sterilization, disinfection, antisepsis.
- Identify, care for, handle, and assemble basic surgical instruments, surgical supplies, suture materials, stapling devices, surgical needles, and accessory and specialty equipment.
- Demonstrate correct draping procedures.
- Demonstrate techniques for opening and preparing supplies and instruments needed for any operative procedure, with maintenance of asepsis at all times.
- Demonstrate knowledge of relevant anatomy, indications for surgery, patient preparation, special equipment and supplies, purpose and expected outcomes, and possible complications for the selected procedures.
- Practice within the legal and ethical guidelines for the surgical technologist.
- DEMONSTRATE ABILITY TO ANTICIPATE THE NEEDS OF THE SURGEON, SURGICAL TEAM, AND ULTIMATELY THE PATIENT.
Surgical Technologist Practicum Student Weekly Objectives: 1st Rotation

Note: these objectives are designed for an experience that is comprised of a 24-40 hour week for 10 weeks. Please adjust the expectations if the student’s experience varies from that model. This is designed to be an outline of expected progress to help the student reach the expected level of skill by the end of the rotation.

Week 1

- Complete any formal orientation required by facility
- Tour the department and familiarize yourself with the facility
- Schedule should be set (or verified if this has not been done prior)
- Student should make sure that department supervisor and preceptor have student contact information and that the student knows who to contact in case of absence or to check schedule
- Observe daily functions of the O.R.: room set-up, start of cases, room turnover, etc. Student should begin assisting in this process as much as possible.
- After a day of observation, the student should scrub in on cases. Duties for student:
  - Check for sterility & open supplies
  - Scrub
  - Gown and glove self
  - Gown and glove others
  - Participate in set-up as appropriate
  - Participate with room turnover
  - Watch ST closely to learn duties
  - Watch procedure & instrumentation used closely

- Check schedule for the following day in order to research and prepare for case. If possible, get a copy of the preference card to review the evening before.
- Express personal goals for the week
Week 2 (in addition to first week duties)

- Understand and apply sterile technique practices in OR setting
- Bring case supplies into the room
- Check for sterility & open supplies (gain an awareness of “available” supplies v. items to be opened)
- Have all items on pick list / preference card before start of the case (with assistance from staff)
- Drape mayo stand
- Participate in case as appropriate (help with set-up, assist with counts, hold retractors, hold camera, cut suture, etc.)

Week 3

- Organize back table
- Put drapes in correct order
- Set up mayo stand with assistance
- Assist with draping
- Pass instruments in basic cases and at closing (with assistance)
- Handle all suture and sharps properly
- Handle all drugs and solutions properly

Week 4

- Set up back table
- Set up mayo stand with moderate assistance
- Pass instruments in all cases with assistance
- Drape with assistance

Week 5

- Set up with minimal guidance for smaller or familiar procedures
- Set up with moderate guidance for larger procedures
- Drape with little assistance (basic draping)
Week 6

- Set up with less guidance on all cases
- Increase speed of set up (goal of 30 min for large procedures, 15 or less for small)
- Increase anticipation skills during procedure
- Pass instruments on familiar cases with little to no assistance

Week 7

- Continue to increase set up speed
- Continue to increase anticipation skills
- Drape with no assistance (basic draping)

Week 8

- Needs minimal help on basic cases

Week 9 & 10

- Functions independently as appropriate
- Acts as primary scrub person (“owns the room”) as much as possible
- Confident in basic and familiar cases

End of Rotation 1 Expectations:
After 250 hours of practicum experience the student should be able to:

- Prepare the OR by referencing the pick list and choosing required supplies for many procedures
- Open supplies in a sterile manner for any procedure
- Scrub using soap and water or waterless methods
- Gown & glove (self and others)
- Organize a back table for most procedures
- Organize a mayo stand with little or no guidance for basic procedures
- Organize a mayo stand with guidance for specialty procedures
- Organize drapes in correct order of use
- Do basic draping with no assistance
- Assist with complex draping
- Hand off tubing and cords
- Pass instruments in position of use
- 1st scrub basic and/or familiar cases with minimal guidance
- 1st scrub complex and/or unfamiliar cases with some guidance
- Handle suture and sharps safely and properly
- Handle specimens appropriately (with guidance as needed)
- Assist the circulating nurse
- Participate in room turnover
- Perform sterile processing duties with guidance
- Anticipate needs of patient and surgeon on basic and/or familiar cases
- Demonstrate knowledge of sterile technique
- Demonstrate knowledge of surgical anatomy
- Participate in a surgery department in a professional manner
Surgical Technologist Practicum Student Weekly Objectives: 2nd Rotation

Note: these objectives are designed for an experience that is comprised of a 24-40 hour week for 10 weeks. Please adjust the expectations if the student’s experience varies from that model. This is designed to be an outline of expected progress to help the student reach the expected level of skill by the end of the rotation. Due to the wide variety of experiences of students in their first rotation, please apply these recommendations and expectations as appropriate for the individual.

Week 1

- Complete any formal orientation required by facility
- Tour the department and familiarize yourself with the facility
- Schedule should be set (or verified if this has not been done prior)
- Student should make sure that department supervisor and preceptor have student contact information and that the student knows who to contact in case of absence or to check schedule
- First day = Observe daily functions of the O.R.: room set-up, start of cases, room turnover, etc. Student should begin assisting in this process as much as possible.
- After a day of observation, the student should scrub in on cases. Duties for student:
  - Check for sterility & open supplies
  - Scrub
  - Gown and glove self
  - Gown and glove others
  - Participate in set-up as appropriate
  - Participate with room turnover
  - Watch ST closely to learn duties
  - Watch procedure & instrumentation used closely

- Check schedule for following day in order to research and prepare for case. If possible, get a copy of the preference card to review the evening before.
- Express personal goal for the week

Week 2 (in addition to first week duties)

- Apply sterile technique practices in OR setting
- Learn facility’s procedure for gathering supplies and equipment for cases
- Check for sterility & open supplies (understand “available” supplies v. items to be opened)
• Have all items on pick list / preference card before start of the case (with assistance from staff)
• Organize back table & Set up mayo stand (with guidance for specific arrangement of facility)
• Put drapes in correct order
• Assist with draping
• Pass instruments in familiar and/or basic cases and at closing (with assistance)
• Handle all suture and sharps properly
• Handle all drugs and solutions properly
• Handle specimens properly with guidance for specific policies of facility
• Act as primary scrub tech as much as possible

Week 3

• Organize back table & Set up mayo stand (with guidance for specific arrangement of facility)
• Put drapes in correct order
• Set up mayo stand with little/no assistance
• Assist with draping, drape independently as appropriate (square off, etc.)
• Handle cords and tubing with assistance
• Pass instruments in familiar and/or basic cases in their entirety
• Pass instruments in all cases as much as appropriate
• Handle all suture and sharps properly
• Handle all drugs and solutions properly

Week 4 – Week 11

• Set up with less guidance on all cases
• Increase speed of set up (goal of 30 min for large procedures, 15 or less for small)
• Increase anticipation skills during procedure
• Pass instruments on familiar cases with no assistance
• Call for own counts and do counts without assistance
• Act as primary scrub tech on all cases available to students
• Should be able to perform all skills with minimal or no assistance
• Functions independently as appropriate
Professional Behavior Checklist

1. The student will be in a typical operating room setting and will exhibit professionalism. Performance will be satisfactory if all the items on the following checklist are met.

**Student is Encouraged to:**
- Maintain patient confidentiality – an absolute MUST!
- Accept assignments cheerfully
- Accept constructive criticism
- Actively listen
- Seek out learning situations
- Use assertive and courteous communications
- Contribute to a positive work environment
- Demonstrate tactfulness
- Demonstrate sensitivity about time and place
- Demonstrate sensitivity to diversity
- Ask clarification questions at appropriate times

**It is Frowned Upon if Students:**
- Discuss private life
- Use aggressive communication
- Take charge or give orders to others
- Talk excessively
- Socialize with staff during the case
- Use profanity
- Dwell on negative aspects
- Discuss cases, patients, staff, fellow students outside of operating room unless it is for learning purposes in post conference

2. The student will display dependability. Performance will be satisfactory if all the items on the following checklist are met.

**In Order for the student to be successful they must:**
- Follow attendance policy
- Notify instructor and practicum site if absent
- Deliver assignments on time
✔ Be prepared for assigned cases
✔ Be in room for case preparation
✔ Perform assigned task
✔ Attend post-conference, evaluation, or advising conferences

**Grounds for dismissal would include:**

✔ Arriving late
✔ Skipping practicum assignments
✔ Abuse of allowed break time
✔ Taking breaks without permission
✔ Disappearing between cases and assignments
✔ Leaving without consulting instructor and charge person.
Guide to Practicum Forms

Surgical Technologist students are held accountable for all practicum/experience forms while at practicum sites. Each of the practicum forms will have specific directions to follow to complete. All original forms will need to be turned into your Program Coordinator week 11 of each quarter.

All completed forms will need to be placed into your practicum binder daily for review by your practicum or program coordinator when visiting your practicum site.
Surgical Technologist Program Practicum Experience Record (Case Log)

For each module, you are to submit a Weekly Case Log documenting the cases you participated in during the week. The case log must be signed, next to each case, by the On-Site Preceptor you worked with. In addition to a signature next to each case the preceptor must initial the back of the form indicating the duties for the first or second scrub role were fulfilled. An unsigned case log is not valid.

You must complete a minimum of 120 cases, as outlined below, in order to complete the surgical technology program. Case totals will be combined between the Practicum I and Practicum II courses.

Key for Practicum Experience Record

General Surgery

Surgical Specialties:

Cardiothoracic, ENT, Ophthalmic, GU, Neurosurgery, OB/GYN, Oral/Maxillofacial, Orthopedics, Peripheral Vascular, Plastics, Procurement/Transplant

Surgical Specialties applied to Second Scrub Role:

- Diagnostic Endoscopy (Bronchoscopy, Colonoscopy, Cystoscopy, EGD, ERCP, Esophagoscopy, Laryngoscopy, Panendoscopy, Sinoscopy, Ureteroscopy)
- Total of 10 diagnostic endoscopy cases may be counted toward second scrub role.
- Labor and Delivery – 5 vaginal delivery cases may be applied toward the second scrub cases

PLEASE NOTE: Diagnostic Endoscopy and Vaginal deliveries are NOT mandatory

First Scrub Role:

All 5 criteria must be met to count the case in the First Scrub Role

- Verify supplies and equipment needed for the surgical procedure
- Set up the sterile field with instruments, supplies, equipment, medication(s) and solutions needed for the procedure
- Perform counts with the circulator prior to the procedure and before the incision is closed
Pass instruments and supplies to the sterile surgical team during the procedure
- Maintain sterile technique as measured by recognized breaks in technique and demonstrate knowledge of how to correct with appropriate technique

**Second Scrub Role:**

A student ST who is in the sterile field but has not met the criteria for the first scrub role, yet actively participates in the surgical procedure in its entirety by completing any of the following:
- Sponging
- Suctioning
- Cutting suture
- Holding retractors
- Manipulating endoscopic camera

**Observation Role:**

A student who is in the operating room performing roles that do not meet the criteria of first and Second scrub role. These observations cases are not to be included in the required case count, but must be documented by the program.

**Surgical Technologist Weekly Timesheets**

Time sheets are completed daily with a starting time, lunch start and finish time and ending time each day. Lunch breaks are not calculated in the total number of hours for each day. Usually lunch breaks are for 30 minutes a day. The OR supervisor/preceptor is required to sign each day’s time record. At the end of each week you and your OR supervisory will sign and date the form. You will need to submit your timesheet weekly or follow any other specific instructions from your program/practicum coordinator.
Student Evaluation Forms:

As a Surgical Technologist student you will be required to complete these forms. There are specific instructions as to when these forms should be completed. Please follow the specific instructions and place in your practicum experience binder, in a drop box in your practicum course or as designated by your practicum/program coordinator.

Student Weekly Goal Sheet

This form is completed by the Surgical Technologist student weekly. It should be placed in the student’s binder for review by the Practicum/Program Coordinator at practicum facility site visits or submitted as designated by your practicum/program coordinator.

Student Self Evaluation: Midterm/End-Of-Quarter

This form is completed midterm and at the end of the quarter.

Student Evaluation of Practicum Site and Preceptors:

This form is used to evaluate your practicum site and preceptors for each of your practicum sites. The Surgical Technologist student will fill one of these forms out for each practicum facility that the student rotates through during the practicum each quarter.

Surgical Technologist Student Performance Evaluations: Practicum Facility Forms

The following three forms are evaluation forms that the practicum site will fill out on the Surgical Technologist student. As a student you will be required to make sure these forms are completed by your practicum facility. There are specific instructions as to when these forms should be completed. Please follow the specific instructions and place in your practicum experience binder, in a drop box in your practicum course or as designated by your practicum/program coordinator

ST Student Performance Evaluation Record:

This form is filled out by your practicum site preceptor after each case.

Practicum Evaluation:

This form is filled out by your practicum site OR supervisor at the end of your practicum rotation through that practicum site. This form should be placed in an envelope that the practicum/program coordinator has left for this form.
Sterile Processing Student Performance Evaluation:

This form is completed by the practicum facility that provides students with sterile processing rotations.