

 Oroville Hospital	<b>Job Description for Registered Nurse First Assistant (RNFA)</b>	Department: <b>Surgery</b>
		Dept.#: <b>7420</b> Last Updated: <b>7/24/08</b>

### **Reports To**

Nurse Manager of Surgery Department

### **Job Summary**

To carry out the functions that will assist the surgeon in performing a safe operation with optimal results for the patient. The RNFA practices peri-operative nursing and is therefore responsible for independent nursing behaviors of peri-operative assessment and post-operative evaluation of care. The intra-operative practice of the RNFA is inter-department with the surgeon.

### **Duties**

1. Assess the health status of the patient in order to develop an individualized plan of care by collecting, categorizing, and interpreting data (physical and psychosocial) from documented information, observation, patient/family interview and other health care team members
2. Assess the patient including nursing diagnosis, patient goals and nursing interventions necessary to achieve goals of care
3. Implement nursing care to provide optimal individualized patient outcome
4. Instruct the patient and family to assist the patient in the achievement of optimal health status
5. document nursing activities to provide a permanent record, for continuity of care, quality improvement and professional accountability
6. Identify the patient to ensure the patient, procedure and operative site correspond
7. Plan, supervise and assist with the transfer of the patient to protect the patient and personnel from injury
8. Position the patient to provide access to the operative site while maximizing patient safety and comfort
9. Establish and maintain a surgically clean environment to reduce the potential for infection by applying the principles of the potential for infection by applying the principles of antisepsis, decontamination, disinfection, sanitation, sterilization and environmental monitoring
10. Establish and maintain a safe environment to protect the patient and the health care team by monitoring the patient (physiologically and psychologically) and the environment and by implementing safety procedures
11. Establish and maintain a sterile field to reduce potential for infection by teaching and supervising the application of principles of aseptic technique and continual monitoring of the sterile field
12. Coordinate support services need during surgery by anticipating and communicating patient and surgical team needs

**Qualifications**

1. Three years experience in peri-operative nursing
2. Demonstrated proficiency in the scrub and circulating roles
3. Demonstrated knowledge and skill in applying principles of aseptic technique
4. Demonstrated knowledge of surgical anatomy, physiology and operative technique related to first assisting
5. Demonstrated ability to perform effectively and harmoniously as a member of the operative team
6. Demonstrated ability to recognize safety hazards and to initiate appropriate preventive and corrective action
7. Demonstrates skill in the following intra-operative nursing behaviors:
  - a. Handling tissue
  - b. Using instruments
  - c. Providing exposure
  - d. Providing hemostasis
8. Certified in peri-operative nursing (CNOR)
9. Successful completion of additional educational preparation specific to the role of RNFA including a supervised clinical component
10. Must have current credentials through Allied Health Professionals

**Lifting Requirements**

Heavy; frequent lifting, not more than 100 pounds with help and/or carrying objects weighing up to 50 pounds.