

DACUM Research Chart for Operating Room Circulating Nurse

DACUM Panel Members

Patricia G. Felice Meckes
Kaiser Permanente
Downey, CA

Pamela Giblin
Saddleback Memorial Medical Center
Laguna Hills, CA

Judith A. Kidd
Fountain Valley Regional Hospital
Fountain Valley, CA

Lydia Helen Mormann
San Antonio Community Hospital
Upland, CA

Louise Nowel
Hoag Memorial Hospital
Newport Beach, CA

Patricia Sponberg
Mission Hospital
Mission Viejo, CA

DACUM Facilitator

Mary O'Connor
South Orange County Community
College District
Anaheim, CA

DACUM Supervisor

Joanne Gray
Saddleback College
Anaheim, CA
RHORC Project Director

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G R O S S M O N T
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Leadership and Economic Development Institute

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El Cajon, California 92020

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Job Description: The operating room circulating registered nurse is the member of the peri-operative team who serves as a patient advocate by assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating care of the surgical patient during the intra-operative period to optimize peri-operative outcomes.

| Duties | | Tasks | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| E | Supervise Intra-operative Care | E-1 Supervise labeling of solutions and medications on sterile field | | E-2 Monitor need for additional sterile supplies | E-3 Monitor safe use of equipment (e.g., fire safety) | E-4 Manage handling of specimens | E-5 Perform all required counts | E-6 Monitor for potential hazards | E-7 Maintain environmental controls, including traffic | E-8 Monitor and document additional procedures not consented | |
| | | E-9 Troubleshoot equipment | E-10 Communicate patient progress to family / significant other | | E-11 Report progress of case to front control desk | E-12 Monitor activities of non-hospital personnel | E-13 Ensure sterility of instruments and equipment | | | | |
| F | Provide Support to the Anesthesia Provider | F-1 Provide additional medications, supplies, and equipment | | F-2 Assist with additional procedures (e.g., spinal, blood draws) | | F-3 Respond to emergency situations | F-4 Verify blood products with anesthesia provider | F-5 Monitor blood loss / urine output | F-6 Provide point of care testing (e.g., glucose, H&H) | F-7 Assist with extubation | F-8 Assist with transport of patient from the operating room |
| G | Prepare Patient for Discharge | G-1 Assist with application of sterile dressing | G-2 Assist with casting / splinting surgical site | G-3 Assist with removal of surgical drapes, supplies | G-4 Evaluate patient outcomes (e.g. skin integrity related to pressure and devices) | | G-5 Discharge from operating room | G-6 Provide report to receiving unit | | | |
| H | Complete Required Peri-Operative Documentation | H-1 Complete pre-operative documentation | H-2 Complete intra-operative documentation | H-3 Validate use of chargeable supplies | H-4 Complete documentation for implants / explants | H-5 Complete flash sterilization log requirements | H-6 Update preference cards | H-7 Report unusual occurrences | | | |
| I | Supervise Room Turnover | I-1 Remove equipment and supplies from previous case | I-2 Remove contaminated supplies and bio-hazardous waste | | I-3 Facilitate room clean up by ancillary personnel | I-4 Inspect room readiness for next case | | | | | |
| J | Monitor Patients Receiving Moderate Sedation/Analgesia | J-1 Review medical record pre-operatively | J-2 Assess patient vital signs and airway | J-3 Administer I.V. sedation medication | J-4 Monitor response to sedation & adverse reactions | J-5 Monitor level of pain | J-6 Complete conscience sedation monitoring documentation | | | | |
| K | Maintain Professional Responsibility | K-1 Maintain professional competencies | K-2 Serve as a preceptor | K-3 Serve as a mentor | K-4 Provide inservice to staff | K-5 Facilitate student rotation & experience in operating room | K-6 Ensure cost containment | K-7 Monitor product quality | | | |

General Knowledge and Skills

Ability to translate complex issues into layman's terms
Age-specific competencies
Analytic skills
Anatomy & physiology – Physics
Aseptic practices
Basic math – metric system/conversion
Microbiology
Pharmacology
Body mechanics
Chain of command
Communication skills
Communication verbal//written
Computer skills
Confidentiality
Conflict management
CPR
Cultural awareness
Decision making skills
Hospital departmental P&P
Electrical safety
Emergency codes
Employee rights
English
Equipment operation
Ethics
Fire safety
Hazardous materials
Infection control
Interpersonal skills
Interpret medical safety data sheet (MSDS)
Knowledge of current trends and developments in the area of practice
Knowledge of lab values
Knowledge of medical records
Knowledge of professional organizations
Knowledge of unit-specific equipment
Laser safety
Leadership qualities
Legal responsibilities/issues
Listening skills
Mechanical skills
Medical terminology
Microbiology
Negotiation skills
Nursing process
Organizational skills
Pathology of diseases
Patient rights
Policies and procedures
Prioritization of work
Problem solving skills
Professional behavior
Professional State & Fed. regulations – OSHA, CMS, DHS, AORN, APIC, AMMI
Standard precautions
Sterilization methods
Stress management skills
Surgical conscience
Surgical instrumentation
Surgical positions
Teaching skills
Time management
Tissue banking

Worker Behaviors

Desire to learn
Flexible
Intuitive
Manual dexterity
Mechanically inclined
Multi tasking
Organized
Patience
Patient advocate
Personal appearance
Personal hygiene
Punctual
Receptive
Reliable
Respectful
Responsible
Role model
Self directed
Sense of humor
Stamina
Tactful
Team player

Future Trends and Concerns

Aging of the OR nurse population
Aging population
Alternative sites for surgical services
Bio terrorism
Brushless/scrubless scrub
Changing/expanded roles
Complex technology
Computer technology
Cost containment
Cross training
Declining employee benefits
Environmental awareness
Health care reform
Increased outpatient surgery
Legislation related to healthcare
Less loyalty to institution

Managed care
Medical/ethical issues
Minimally Invasive procedures
Multi drug resistant - organisms
National certification
Opportunities for professional growth
Rapidly changing advanced technology
Recycling of products by manufacturing
Reduced reimbursement
Robotics
Sharing manpower resources
Shortage of health care professionals
Social/health issues
Staffing ratios of RN
Violence in the workplace

Tools, Equipment, Supplies and Materials

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Air filtration systems | Drugs & solutions (cont'd) | Pulse oxymetry |
| Anesthesia machine/monitors | Irrigation solutions | Sentinel node monitor |
| Arthroscopic supplies | Local anesthetics | Stereotactic equipment |
| Auto-transfusion devices | Radioactive materials | Smoke Evacuators |
| Beeper | Steroids | Specialty trays |
| BIS monitor | Topical ointments | Sponges |
| Bone bank | Vasodilator/constrictors | 4 x 4 |
| Brain lab | EKG | Cottonoids |
| Catheter/drains | Electro surgical units & related patient safety | Dental rolls |
| Central venous | End Tital CO ₂ monitor | Eye sponges |
| Chest | External fixators | Kitner |
| Cholangiocath | Gamma knife | Laps |
| Embolectomy | Gloves | Swabs |
| Foley | Gowns | Tonsil sponges |
| Myringotomy | Harmonic scalpel | Sterilizers |
| Naso-gastric | Hypo/hyper thermia units | Suction equipment |
| Penrose | Implants | Surgical instruments |
| Robinson | All specialities | clamps |
| Stents | Insufflators | cutting |
| T-tube | Irrigation/pumps | dissectors/elevators |
| Tubes | Isolettes | endoscopes |
| Urethral myringotomy | Laminar equipment and headgear | forceps |
| Urethral | Lasers | graspers |
| Vascular cath | Carbon dioxide | ligating clips |
| Ventricular cath | K.T.P./Yag | needleholders |
| Wound drain | Argon | power equipment |
| Collection bag/devices | Holmium | probes/dialators |
| Compressed gases and regulators | Candella | retractors |
| Coronary bypass pump | Indigo | suction tips |
| Crash Cart | Latex allergy precautions & related safety | Sutures |
| Cryo Units | Lights | Absorbable |
| Defibrillator - pacemaker | Headlights | Non-absorbable |
| Doppler | Light sources | Staples |
| Drapes & packs | Spotlights | Steri-strips |
| Dressings | Loupes | Tourniquets |
| 2 x 2's | Malignant hyperthermia cart | Trach tube, drains, suction, etc. |
| 4 x 4's | Masks | Ultrasound |
| ABD | Microscopes | C.U.S.A. |
| Bio-adhesive | Needles | Lithotriptors |
| Cast dressing | cutting | Emulsifier |
| Eye pad | taper | Vascular grafts |
| Gauze | trocar | Video/cameras, recorders, printers, monitors |
| Liquid dressings | blunt | Warming lights |
| Non-adhesive | "free" | X-Ray, fluoroscopy |
| Packing | pop offs | |
| Peri-pad | reverse cutting | |
| Tapes | O. R. furniture | |
| Drugs & solutions | Phaco machine | |
| Anti-coagulants | Positioning equipment | |
| Antibiotics | fracture table | |
| Antiseptics | shoulder chair | |
| Disinfectants | C-frame | |
| Dyes | Andrews table | |
| Hemostatic agents | | |