

MIDLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMING AS A
LICENSED SURGICAL ASSISTANT (LSA)

DEFINITION

These are surgical assistants (non-physician) who have met certification criteria and passed certifying examinations given by the NSAA and AST relative to surgical assisting. These are the two of the three organizations recognized throughout the United States as credible organizations for certification. The licensed surgical assistant's scope of practice would be based on experience and training as defined in the job description that would reflect those tasks and responsibilities allowed.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Currently licensed by the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners as a Licensed Surgical Assistant.
- Basic Cardiac Life Support (minimum).
- Current TB screening (required upon initial application and at reappointment), and if applicable, one-time mask fit-testing.
- Professional liability/malpractice insurance coverage issued by a recognized company and a type and in an amount equal to or greater than the limits established by the governing board.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

The following are duties the Licensed Surgical Assistant may perform under the direction of a physician:

- Determines specific equipment needed per procedure.
- Reviews permit to confirm procedure and special needs.
- Selection and placement of x-rays for reference.
- Assists in moving and position of patient.
- Confirms procedure with surgeon.
- Drapes patient within surgeon's guidelines.
- Provides retraction of tissue and organs for optimal visualization with regard to tissue type and appropriate retraction instrument and/or technique.
- Assist in maintaining hemostasis by direct pressure, use and application of appropriate surgical instrument for the task, placement of ties, application of chemical hemostatic agents, or other measures as directed by the surgeon.
- Use of electrocautery mono and bi-polar.
- Clamp, ligation and cutting of tissue per surgeon's directive.
- Maintains integrity of sterile field.
- Insertion of drainage tubes per surgeon's directive.
- Selection and application wound dressings.
- Closure of all wound layers (fascia, subcutaneous and skin) as per surgeon's directive.
- Assists with resuscitation of patient during cardiac arrest or other life threatening events in the operating room.
- Any other duties or procedures incident to the surgical procedure deemed necessary and directed by the surgeon.

ORIENTATION

These Allied Health Professionals must be oriented to Midland Memorial Hospital's Operating Room Policies and Procedures and must have their sterile technique assessed by the Surgical Educator. They must also complete MMH's general orientation for Allied Health Professionals.

Practitioner's Printed Name

Supervisor/Sponsor Physician's Printed Name

Practitioner's Signature

Supervisor/Sponsor Physician's Signature

Section Chief /Department Chair

Date