
Operation Room Standard Intents

OR.1 Qualified individual directs the operating room.

OR.1.1 The operating room is directed by a qualified medical staff (e.g., surgical or anesthesia staff).

Standard Intent:

The operating room requires a director who run the day to day work as well as all other related activities. This person may be a surgeon or anesthesiologist based on job description requirements with management and clinical background with decision making authorities.

OR.2 Qualified nurse manager supervises nursing services in the operating room.

OR.2.1 The nurse manager in charge of the operating room is a qualified registered nurse with training, education, and experience in operative care.

OR.2.2 The nurse manager of the operating room develops and collaborates with other disciplines for developing all required and related policies and procedures.

Standard Intent:

Operation theatre is one of the critical clinical areas in the health care institute, nurse manager of operation room should be licensed nurse by local licensing body and have comprehensive training on surgical operation with clinical experience in operation room based on the requirement of job description. The person must develop and collaborates with other disciplines for developing all required and related policies and procedures.

OR.3 The nurse manager ensures the competency of the nursing staff.

OR.3.1 The nursing staff receive ongoing training on the following general and operating room- related needs:

- OR.3.1.1 Use of equipment.
- OR.3.1.2 Use of defibrillator.
- OR.3.1.3 Use of pulse oximetry.
- OR.3.1.4 Infection control.
- OR.3.1.5 Blood transfusion.
- OR.3.1.6 Central sterilization policy.
- OR.3.1.7 Maintenance of a sterile field.
- OR.3.1.8 Draping and gowning.
- OR.3.1.9 Surgical table operation and safe positioning of patients.
- OR.3.1.10 Assistance in operations of their specialty surgical area.
- OR.3.1.11 Pre and post-procedural handling and disposing of surgical equipment.
- OR.3.1.12 Safe operation of variable surgical equipment according to specialty.

OR.3.2 Nursing staff competencies are assessed by using different methods (e.g. written test, return demonstration).

Standard Intent:

Nursing staff working in the operating room should be competent and skillful to carry out all nursing care activities carried out inside the operating room. The measurement of their competency should be implemented through a comprehensive program that is based on written examination to ensure that the staff has the knowledge, also, there should be training on the skills and return demonstration by nurse manager to be sure that all the staff are meeting the requirements of operating theatre nurse. Substandard OR.3.1.1 through OR.3.1.12 highlights the minimum required competencies.

OR.4 Patients who are admitted for surgery have medical assessment performed and plan of care documented prior to surgery.

OR.4.1 Prior to surgery, the most responsible physician performs medical assessment and ensures documentation of the following:

- OR.4.1.1 History and physical examination.
- OR.4.1.2 Pre-operative diagnosis.
- OR.4.1.3 Diagnostic tests (laboratory, radiology, etc.) as ordered.
- OR.4.1.4 Signed informed consent.
- OR.4.1.5 Planned procedure.

OR.4.2 In emergency situations where a complete medical assessment cannot be documented, a brief note is written by the most responsible physician.

Standard Intent:

The most responsible physician must perform medical assessment and document in the patient medical record. The assessment should include history and physical examination, preoperative diagnosis, diagnostic tests (laboratory, radiology, etc.) as ordered, signed informed consent and planned procedure. In a case of an emergency situation where a complete medical assessment cannot be documented, a brief note is written by the most responsible physician.

OR.5 Policies and procedures guide the care of patients in the operating room.

OR.5.1 Policies and procedures guide the care of patients in the operating room. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- OR.5.1.1 Handover process between unit nurse and operating room nurse and operating room reception.
- OR.5.1.2 Prevention of wrong patient, wrong surgery/procedure, or wrong site.
- OR.5.1.3 Infection control measures in operating room and recovery room including isolation precautions.
- OR.5.1.4 Handling patients with infectious diseases (e.g. Tuberculosis, AIDS, and Hepatitis).