



## UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD4789

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|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>JOB TITLE:</b>            | Anesthesia Assistant Trainee                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:</b>        | 4789   |
| <b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>       | Anesthesia Assistant – Trainee                                                                                                                                                               | <b>GRID/PAY LEVEL:</b>             | H-I-T1 |
| <b>COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:</b> | Health Science Professionals                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>HSCIS NO.:</b>                  | 65351  |
| <b>UNION:</b>                | HSA                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>JOB/CLASS CODE:</b>             | 65351  |
| <b>PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:</b>   | Surgical Perioperative                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):</b> |        |
| <b>REPORTING TO:</b>         | Manager or designate                                                                                                                                                                         |                                    |        |
| <b>FACILITY/SITE:</b>        | Royal Jubilee Hospital; Victoria General Hospital; Nanaimo Regional General Hospital; Campbell River Hospital; Comox Valley Hospital; Cowichan District Hospital (Quw'utsun Valley Hospital) |                                    |        |

### JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of Island Health (Vancouver Island Health Authority), patient and staff safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

Reporting to the Manager or Designate, the Anesthesia Assistant Trainee functions as an integral member of the surgical team through provision of technical support and clinical assistance with induction, maintenance and emergence of anesthesia, under direct clinical supervision of the Attending Anesthesiologist and in accordance with the standards of practice guidelines of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society.

The Anesthesia Assistant Trainee reports to the Manager or Designate for learning outcomes and for schedule of rotation. The Manager or Designate in conjunction with the Anesthesiologist sponsor will assess trainee progress and develop ongoing plan to help the trainee meet all learning requirements.

The Anesthesia Assistant Trainee will provide clinical assistance under the direct supervision of an Anesthesiologist. A Qualified Anesthesia Assistant will orientate the Anesthetic Assistant Trainee to the role including demonstration and precept practice of the technical duties associated with the role. The Manager or Designate and the supervising Attending Anesthesiologist(s) and/or Anesthesiologist sponsor will confirm and agree sufficient proficiency in the required technical duties prior to completion of the orientation process.

### TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the clinical supervision of the Anesthesiologist, the Anesthesia Assistant Trainee performs the following duties:

1. Assist in the preparation of the patient for surgery and ensures patient comfort by providing psychosocial support pre-operatively and during the induction phase of anesthesia, including explaining procedures and answering questions.
2. Assists with pre and post-operative assessment of patients by performing an anesthetic risk and airway assessment and determining the general physical status of the patient. Advises the Anesthesiologist of the patient's status.

3. Prepares, tests, and maintains the integrity of equipment for use in anesthesia, including anesthesia machines and monitors, cerebral oximeter, ECG monitor, peripheral nerve stimulators, ultrasound machines, nitric delivery system, intubation equipment, fiber optic laryngoscope, breathing circuits, ventilators, scavenging devices, monitoring devices, infusion pumps/lines and blood gas lines through methods such as setting up, calibrating, operating and monitoring the equipment. Identifies malfunctions, carries out minor maintenance in accordance with Canadian Standards Association and liaises with Biomedical Engineering and/or vendor(s) to maintain optimal performance of equipment.
4. Assists with the induction of anesthesia through methods such as providing management of airway, the establishment of ventilation, the procurement of intravenous and arterial lines and assisting Pulmonary Artery and other central line insertion.
5. Assists the Anesthesiologist with the procurement of regional blockade via ultrasound, peripheral nerve stimulation, x-ray and/or a combination.
6. Assists the Anesthesiologist with perioperative fiber optic airway procedures through the administration of topical anesthetics for the airway, preparation of the difficult airway cart and assistance with performing endotracheal intubation. Monitors the patients' physiological response to procedural stimulation/medication.
7. Administers prescribed pharmacological agents to the patient under the direction of the Anesthesiologist, observes side effects and efficacy of treatment during anesthesia to ensure the patient responds appropriately.
8. Under the direct supervision of the Anesthesiologist, initiates mechanical ventilation and titrates the anesthetic according to care plan to ensure optimal maintenance of anesthesia. Monitors and adjusts ventilation modalities as required to ensure adequate patient ventilation and oxygenation.
9. Assists with the documentation of patient data on the Anesthesia Record by charting clinical findings such as vital signs (ECG, heart rate, blood pressure and temperature), respiratory status, including Tidal Volume, Rate, Volatile agent concentration, Ventilation mode and pressures.
10. Assists with patient emergence from anesthesia by providing airway maintenance such as aspiration of secretions from the trachea and pharynx, patient extubation, discontinuing monitors and removing anesthesia equipment after surgical procedures.
11. Assists with patient transfer in and out of Operating Room as determined by the critical nature of the patient's status. Assists the Anesthesiologist in transporting the patient to the recovery room or other designated area by accompanying and monitoring patient's respiratory status during transport.
12. Responds and assists with intraoperative crises such cardiac arrest and malignant hyperthermia response within the perioperative units and assists the Anesthesiologist in providing airway, ventilatory and circulatory support.
13. Assists with providing diagnostic data for the Anesthesiologist through methods such as blood sampling and analysis, end tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring, pulse oximetry and transcutaneous monitoring.
14. Maintains an inventory of anesthesia equipment and supplies through methods such as identifying requirement of replenishment of equipment and notifying appropriate stakeholders such as but not limited to the OR Manager, Biomedical Engineering, the Anesthetic Aide, and Stores Porter.
15. Participates in the infection control program through methods such as assessing infection control in anesthetic equipment and disinfecting and sterilizing equipment in accordance with safety standards.
16. Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

### **Education, Training And Experience**

Graduation from an accredited Respiratory Therapy program. One year of critical care experience or two years' experience in an acute care environment.

Active enrollment in the Thompson River University (TRU) Anesthesia Assistant post-diploma program.

Current Basic Cardiac Life Support.

## **Skills And Abilities**

- Demonstrated ability and skill in the use of medical equipment and supplies appropriate to the clinical area
- Physical ability to carry out the duties of the position.
- Ability to assess patient responses to care and respond appropriately
- Ability to deal with conflict situations
- Ability to use critical decision making skills
- Ability to work effectively with others
- Ability to carry out work independently and in collaboration with others
- Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing
- Ability to demonstrate equipment and procedures
- Ability to operate related equipment, including computers utilizing a variety of software applications