



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD809

JOB TITLE:	Cardiac Sonographer, Adult Services	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	60374/P.VI.63300.001
CLASSIFICATION:	Diagnostic Medical Sonographer P1	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	H-H-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	HSCIS NO.:	68701
UNION:	HSA	JOB/CLASS CODE:	68701
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Heart Health & Adult Intensive Care	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	Sannich Peninsula Hospital (SPH); Royal Jubilee Hospital (RJH); Victoria General Hospital (VGH); Nanaimo Regional Hospital(NRGH); Oceanside Health Centre (OHC); Cowichan District General Hospital (CDH); Campbell River General Hospital (CRH); Comox Valley Hospital (CVH)		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health) 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.

Under the general supervision of the Echocardiography Supervisor, and as a member of a multidisciplinary health care team providing patient-centered care, the Cardiac Sonographer, Adult Services performs echocardiograms with a focus on adult procedures; receives and completes requisitions, forms and preliminary reports; prepares patients for procedures and monitors supplies and equipment; monitors patients while observing patient safety practices; and operates ultrasound equipment, including preparing and presenting patient data to physicians.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Performs echocardiograms in accordance with standards of professional practice and established departmental policies and procedures, and provides assistance as required with pharmacological and/or exercise stress echocardiography and diagnostic and/or intra-operative transesophageal echocardiography procedures plus use of enhancement agents (e.g. contrast or agitated saline) echocardiograms.
2. Performs the echo transfer of function services for enhancement agent / echo enhancement agents and /or IV insertion echocardiograms.
3. Explains procedures to patients and monitors patient care by observing and responding in accordance with policies and procedures, including performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in the event of an emergency.
4. Checks images for technical quality and completeness, prepares technical impressions, and discusses images with the cardiologist to ensure examinations address designated requirements.
5. Utilizes computerized systems and applications to maintain patient and hospital records, including obtaining and entering patient demographics, histories and charts as required, in accordance with departmental policies, procedures and professional practice standards.

6. Protects confidential patient information in accordance with Island Health privacy policies and procedures and FIPPA legislation.
7. Participates as a member of the multidisciplinary health care team by:
 - Collaborating with other members of the health care team in the provision of quality, patient-centred care;
 - Coordinating the technical procedures required with other aspects of healthcare; and
 - Promoting effective communication with patients and staff.
8. Assists and collaborates with cardiologists, fellows, residents and nursing staff in additional procedures such as transesophageal echocardiography, contrast studies (saline/bubble and cardiovascular ultrasound enhancement agents), and stress echocardiography in accordance with department standards and procedures. Follows basic aseptic technique. Assists and provides support and comfort to the patient during the procedure.
9. Cleans transesophageal probes in accordance with the reprocessing cycle and facility and departmental policies.
10. Acts as a resource person by collegially sharing, demonstrating and providing guidance regarding technical procedures, and in particular adult cardiac ultrasound procedure leadership, to other technologists, students and members of the multidisciplinary team.
11. Participates in Continuous Quality Improvement by conducting audits, completing appropriate reports, monitoring clinical indicators and satisfaction surveys, providing feedback and following up on risk factors and making recommendations for improvement.
12. Carries out responsibilities in accordance with health and safety requirements. Immediately reports unsafe situations by notifying supervisor or other appropriate personnel.
13. Maintains work area by checking and cleaning equipment, setting up examination trays for specific procedures. Receives and stocks supplies and identifies depleted stock and malfunctioning equipment requiring repair in accordance with established policies and procedures.
14. Demonstrates personal initiative in maintaining professional currency and skills by participating in continuing education activities as required, including case reviews and regular educational rounds.
15. Performs other related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

- Graduate of a recognized diploma training program in Diagnostic Cardiac Sonography; and
- Certified by Sonography Canada (CRCS) and/or American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (RDCS); and
- One (1) year recent cardiac ultrasound experience; and
- Basic Life Support Certificate (BLSC), Level C.

An equivalent combination of training and experience may be considered.

Skills And Abilities

- Demonstrated knowledge of the standards of practice and guidelines for Echocardiographers established by Sonography Canada and/or ARDMS and/or other relevant national professional associations.
- Comprehensive knowledge of theory and practice in echocardiography.
- Broad knowledge and practice of safe work procedures with ultrasound equipment.
- Demonstrated ability to complete cardiac scanning and preliminary reporting within the allotted time.
- Demonstrated ability to perform sonographic examinations in compliance with departmental standards.

- Demonstrated ability to organize, coordinate and prioritize workload in collaboration with others.
- Demonstrated ability to establish priorities in collaboration with others.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate (orally and in writing) and deal effectively with patients and their families, co-workers, physicians, other health care staff, and staff of external agencies.
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as a member of a multidisciplinary team.
- Demonstrated ability to operate related equipment, including computerized systems and applications.
- Physically able to perform the duties of the position.