

JOB TITLE: Preoperative & Post Anesthesia Care Unit Registered Nurse (PreOp/PACU RN)	DEPARTMENT: Surgical Services	POSITION OF SUPERVISOR: Director of Surgical Services
FLSA STATUS: Non-exempt	ANTICIPATED HOURS PER WEEK: 40 ON CALL Required 30 Min. Response Time	EFFECTIVE DATE:

**Position Summary:** The PreOp/PACU RN is responsible for coordinating and managing patient care for surgical patients throughout the preoperative and postoperative phases. They will administer diligent care to surgical patients via assessment, monitoring, and intervention including care for the post-operative patients recovering from anesthesia (general, regional, and local). They will provide support, education, direct care to patients, and act as a liaison between the surgical team and the patient families/support systems. Using comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to patient care, the PreOp/PACU nurse works closely with the entire surgical team. The PreOp/PACU registered nurse may serve as a: (1) Preoperative Nurse, (2) Post-Anesthesia Care Unit Nurse, (3) Conscious Sedation RN, (4) Pre-Admission Testing or (PAT) Nurse.

**Qualifications:** *At all times, the employee shall possess the following qualifications set forth below.*

<b>Education/Training:</b>	Graduate from an accredited school of nursing; BSN preferred
<b>Experience:</b>	Three (3) years nursing experience and knowledgeable about nursing practice in the perioperative setting, emergency department or intensive care unit. Experience working in gastroenterology endoscopy setting preferred.
<b>Special Skills, Licenses or Certifications:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current RN licensure in Colorado or compact state in good standing</li> <li>• <b>Required Certifications:</b> BLS (Basic Life Support)</li> <li>• <b>Preferred Certifications:</b> ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support), PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support), CPAN (Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse or CAPA (Certified Ambulatory Perianesthesia Nurse.</li> <li>• Preferred experience caring for Orthopedic, General, Gynecology, Gastroenterology, and Ophthalmology surgical patients</li> <li>• Basic computer knowledge (Microsoft Office, Electronic Health Record )</li> </ul>
<b>Language Skills:</b>	Demonstrates ability to read, write, and clearly express one's self in English 100% of the time Additional languages preferred Demonstrates ability to listen Demonstrates ability to clearly convey thoughts in speech and written word
<b>Physical/Mental/Special Demands:</b>	Lifting a minimum of <u>50</u> pounds may be required; adequate hearing is required to hear/talk with other employees, patients and public in person and on the telephone; work requires the use of computers with exposure to monitors, key boards, mouse with repetitive motions for extended periods of time; position requires standing, bending, walking and long periods of sitting. Ability to initiate CPR 100% of the time. Must have fine motor skills 100% of the time. Ability to work and multi-task at a rapid pace with numerous interruptions 100% of the time. Good mental health. Must be able to demonstrate tact, versatility, and dependability. High degree of self-motivation and directional initiative. Ability to function independently. Ability to cope and remain calm in escalating situations. Must consistently demonstrate compliance with organizational-wide competency statements and performance criteria based on established quality indicators.

<b>Work Environment:</b>	Work is performed in a hospital setting with exposure to work stress, environmental stress, and frequent interruptions; noise level is moderate; work may involve exposure to blood, bodily fluids, hazardous, radioactive materials, communicable diseases, and exposure to frequent alarms with a potential for alarm fatigue; frequent communications, on a daily basis, with the general public, co-workers, vendors and patients.
<b>Cross-Training of Position:</b>	PSMC cross-trains job positions. This job description must cross-train to be able to effectively perform the job positions of: <u>PAT RN</u>

**Standard Job Requirements: At all times, employee shall satisfy the following requirements:**

1. Adhere to and support PSMC's Code of Conduct and WISER values.
2. Comply with all PSMC policies including, without limitation, timely attendance, code for dress and decorum, no conflicts of interest, no harassment, fragrance free, etc.
3. Comply with all PSMC and department procedures, competencies, rules and directives.
4. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others (e.g., co-workers, supervisors, patients, visitors, vendors of PSMC and the general public).
5. Be courteous, respectful, honest, and solution-oriented in dealing with others.
6. Possess excellent organizational skills and the ability to multi-task.
7. Work independently and perform the job with minimum supervision.
8. Checks email and phone messages at least once daily when on shift.
9. Work effectively on PSMC/department team matters and recognize situations which require teamwork.
10. Maintain strict confidentiality of all patient matters and recognize situations where confidentiality should be maintained even if not legally required.
11. Respect the importance of compliance and quality programs and support the same.
12. Possess computer knowledge/skills and the ability to learn and adapt to new programs and software.
13. Participate in employee training, Disaster Preparedness and emergency events.
14. Perform other job duties, as assigned by a supervisor.

**Essential Duties, Functions and Responsibilities: At all times, employee shall be able to perform the following essential functions of the job, with or without an accommodation, as set forth below.**

1. PreOp/PACU Nurse works within the surgery department and will be available to assist the RN Circulator in the OR if situation warrants, ensuring a safe environment for optimal surgical outcome and acts as a patient advocate throughout the perioperative continuum of care.
2. PreOp/PACU RN's wear hospital laundered scrubs.
3. Must possess the skills required to perform hemodynamic monitoring, pain management (i.e. PCA, epidural), cardiac monitoring, vascular access device management and airway management.
4. Interpret information accurately from various noninvasive and invasive monitors.
5. Conducts individualized age-appropriate patient assessments and plan of care, prioritizing the data collection based on the patient's immediate condition or needs according to PSMC procedures or protocols.
6. Assesses patients prior to surgery and post-operatively following PSMC policies/procedures adhering to standards of care (i.e. ASPAN-American Society of Paranesthesia Nurses and AORN-Association of perioperative Room Nurses).
7. Assists in patient positioning for anesthesia regional blocks to ensure the patient remains free of injury.
8. Knowledge of use, maintenance, and troubleshooting of equipment, instruments, and supplies.

9. Performs appropriate treatments (i.e. initiates IV, places appropriate VTE prevention hose/wraps, etc.) as ordered by physician in an accurate and timely manner.
10. Ensures accurate completion of the PreOp Checklist and gives face to face handoff to the OR Circulator or PreOp/PACU RN at transfer of care or for relief report.
11. Provides individualized patient/family education and discharge planning customized to the surgical patient and his/her family. Ensures that the patient/family's questions are answered and that the patient/caregiver understands instructions.
12. Documents patient assessment findings, physical/psychosocial responses to nursing interventions and progress towards problem resolution in the EMR-
13. Assess patient's postoperative status at intervals according to facility or health care organization policies and procedures to include the patient's
  - a. cardiovascular system,
  - b. respiratory system and airway management needs,
  - c. neurological system,
  - d. hemodynamic stability,
  - e. pain and comfort needs, and
  - f. mental status.
14. Describes the underlying pathophysiology of commonly encountered disease processes.
15. Describes the physiology associated with various anesthesia techniques and surgical or procedural interventions.
16. Monitors patients for changes in condition and reports any abnormal findings to the anesthesia provider and/or surgeon.
17. Applies the Aldrete scoring/discharge criteria for patient transfer/discharge score accurately as defined by PSMC policy and procedures.
18. Initiates appropriate nursing interventions in the care of the patient including but not limited to:
  - a. managing patient recovery from anesthesia – general,MAC (monitored anesthesia care), Regional and Local
  - b. protecting patient from injury caused by positioning, thermal sources, and extraneous objects;
  - c. communicating the patient's current status throughout the perianesthesia continuum of care;
  - d. providing acute pain and comfort management as needed;
  - e. administering medications correctly by implementing the 7-rights of safe medication practices (i.e., right patient, right medication, right dose, right time, right route, right indication, right documentation);
  - f. performing interventions to maintain the integrity of the patient's wound and tissue perfusion at or above baseline levels;
  - g. performing interventions to maintain the status of the patient's genitourinary, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, endocrine, respiratory, cardiovascular, and neurological systems, and fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base balances at or above baseline levels;
  - h. performing interventions to ensure the patient is at or returned to normothermia at the conclusion of the immediate postoperative period;
  - i. performing interventions to protect patient from infection;
  - j. managing patient's other co-morbid conditions as applicable;
  - k. managing patient's fluid as prescribed;
  - l. assessing knowledge level of the patient and/or designated support person and providing education regarding expected psychosocial response, nutritional management, medication management, pain and comfort management, wound management, and expected responses to the operative or invasive procedure;
  - m. involving patient and/or designated support person actively in decisions affecting his or her perioperative plan of care and the rehabilitation process;
  - n. protecting the patient's rights, dignity and privacy;
  - o. providing age-specific, culturally competent, ethical care within legal standards of practice;
  - p. providing consistent and comparable care regardless of the setting and;

~~k-g. evaluation of the patient's progress towards outcomes.~~

~~l.—assessing knowledge level of patient or designated support person and providing education regarding the expected psychosocial response, nutritional management, medication management, pain and comfort management, wound management, and expected responses to the operative or invasive procedure;~~

~~m.—involving patient or designated support person actively in decisions affecting his or her perioperative plan of care and the rehabilitation process;~~

~~protecting patient's rights, dignity, and privacy;~~

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~~providing consistent and comparable care regardless of the setting.~~

~~Evaluates patient's progress towards outcomes.~~

19. Transfers care as needed.
20. Documents nursing care completely, accurately, and legibly in the EMR.
21. Collaborates effectively with other disciplines as needed.
22. Acts as a patient advocate and maintain privacy and confidentiality of individuals and health information.
23. Initiates and/or assists in emergency resuscitative measures according to adult & pediatric resuscitation and advanced life support protocols.
24. Attends department and medical staff meetings, trainings, and task forces, as appropriate.
25. Assists in inventory/supply management and reviews daily charges for procedures performed.
26. Participates in department ongoing quality improvement activities such as chart review and policy review.
27. Pursue professional growth and maintains specialized knowledge and skills in perioperative nursing practice by participating in professional organizations and on-going continuing education/in-service training with emphasis in perioperative practice.
28. Performs function of the PAT RN role commiserate with experience and as assigned.

**Approved by:**

	<b>Director of Surgical Services</b>	
(Supervisor – Signature)	(Title)	(Date)
	<b>Human Resources Director</b>	
(Human Resources– Signature)	(Title)	(Date)

**Receipt and Acknowledgment:**

I acknowledge and understand that:

- This job description, and receipt and acknowledgment of this job description, does not imply or create a promise of employment or employment contract of any kind. I understand and acknowledge that my employment with Pagosa Springs Medical Center is “at will” and may be terminated by me or the employer at any time with or without cause.
- The job description provides a general summary and requirements of the position in which I am employed. At this time, I know of no limitations which would prevent me from performing these functions with or without accommodation. I further understand that it is my responsibility to inform my supervisor if, at any time, I am no longer qualified for my position and/or unable to perform the job requirements or essential functions of my job.
- Positions, job descriptions, duties, tasks, work hours, work requirements and qualifications may be changed at any time at the discretion of Pagosa Springs Medical Center.

- Acceptable job performance requires: (a) proper compliance with and completion of all aspects of the job description; and (b) compliance with PSMC policies, procedures, rules and directives.
- I have read and understand this job description.

(Print Employee Name)	(Employee Signature)	(Date)