Nursing: Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PICU and NICU), Pre/Post-Operative, Operating Room (Surgical Circulating and Surgical Scrub)

Description

Our nurses provide patients with professional skills and personal touch. They embody the compassionate and caring spirit of Operation Smile's medical volunteer community. Their knowledge of pediatric principles and their diverse abilities ensure that every patient receives the exceptional care they deserve.

Nursing Volunteer Roles

1. Pre/Post-Operative Nurse
2. Operating Room Nurse
    a. Circulating & Scrub
    b. Circulating Only
    c. Scrub Only (Nursing & Non-Nursing Personnel)
3. Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) Nurse

Requirements for Credentialing

Applicants must meet the following general requirements:

- Graduate of an accredited nursing program.
- Valid and unrestricted license or certification to practice in home country.
- Currently practicing in a clinical setting relevant to the applied role.
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification, or approved equivalents, are required.
- Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, or approved equivalents, if applicable. See the role-specific requirements below for more details

**Surgical Scrub Personnel does not need BLS, formal certification, or authorization but should submit any relevant diplomas and be legally eligible to work in accordance with in-country requirements and Operation Smile Medical Oversight approval.*

Role-Specific Requirements

1. Pre/Post-Operative Nurse

- Minimum of 2 years of current experience in an acute care setting.
- Direct nursing care of pediatric patients in hospital wards, pediatric units, or emergency departments.
- Pediatric perioperative experience in surgical clinics may be considered upon review by Medical Oversight and nursing experts.
- Current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, or approved equivalents, are required.

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2. Operating Room Nurse

All operating room nurses require a minimum of 2 years of current perioperative experience in a hospital or surgical center.

Circulating and Scrub Nurse

- Experienced in both circulating and scrub roles, ensuring efficient intraoperative workflow and maintaining sterile technique.
- Skilled in preparing surgical instruments, assisting surgeons, and coordinating patient care throughout all phases of surgery.
- Current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, or approved equivalents, are required.

Circulating Nurse Only

- Proficient in managing the operating room environment, verifying patient identity, and ensuring adherence to aseptic and safety protocols.
- Coordinates communication between surgical team members and supports optimal patient outcomes during perioperative care.
- Current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, or approved equivalents, are required.

Scrub Nurse Only

- Experienced in preparing and maintaining sterile fields, selecting and handling surgical instruments, and anticipating surgeon needs during procedures.
- Ensures instrument counts, specimen handling, and sterile technique compliance throughout surgical procedures.
- This position does not require Basic Life Support (BLS)

3. PACU Nurse

- Minimum of 2 years of recent experience in a PACU, Pediatric ICU, or Neonatal ICU.
- Demonstrated experience recovering pediatric patients from anesthesia.
- Proficiency in pediatric airway management is strongly preferred.
- Current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, or approved equivalents, are required.

Application Requirements (All Roles)

Applicants must submit the following:

- Completed Operation Smile Volunteer Application.
- Current curriculum vitae (CV) in English detailing education and clinical experience.
- Proof of nursing license/certification.
- Copies of relevant degrees, specialty training, and certifications.
- Valid PALS required and valid BLS, if applicable.
- Interview with Volunteer Management and/or designated Council member, as needed.
- Background check as required by the local Foundation office.