



PACU SKILLS CHECKLIST

Please enter your full legal name as it appears on your Social Security Card.

First Name:

Last Name:

Date:

Job Description: Staff Nurse - RN - PACU/Recovery Room

Evaluates, may create and implement patient plan of care, and documents all nursing care for post-operative patient population. Assesses patient for pain and maintains hemodynamic stability, neurological stability, and pain management. Administers medications within the scope of practice of the registered nurse. Establish patient care goals and provides necessary teaching to patient and family to understand condition, medications, and self-care skills. Requires a minimum of an associate's degree and a license in the state of employment as a registered nurse. Utilizes one's experience and judgment to plan and accomplish goals. Performs a variety of tasks and direct patient care. Reports to a manager or charge nurse of the designated unit.

KEY: For each criteria

Score 1: Two plus years Expert Experience

Score 2: One-Two Years Current Experience

Score 3: Less than one year or Intermittent Experience

Score 4: Theory, no experience

CRITERIA	SCORE			
	1	2	3	4
EXPERIENCE				
Admission to PACU				
Physical Assessment of Body Systems				
Pulmonary/Abnormal Breathing				
Perform Suctioning				
O2 Administration				
Care of patient with Chest Tube				
Postoperative Patient Care				
Care of Patient with Tubes/Drains				
Cardiovascular				
Operate & Monitor Unit Equipment				
Anesthesia Equipment				
CHARTING				
Computer				
DARE				
APIE				
SOAPIE				
FOCUS				
Discharge Planning				
Utilization Review				
Chart Review/Audit				
ADMISSION TO PACU				
Initial assessment				
Airway management				
Proper positioning				
Vital signs				
Skin color, temperature, turgor				
Neurological status				
PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT OF BODY SYSTEMS				
Respiratory				
Cardiovascular				

Neurological	
Gastrointestinal	
Integumentary	
MONITOR RECOVERY OF PATIENT FROM	
General anesthesia	
Regional anesthesia	
Local anesthesia	
PULMONARY	
Auscultate breath sounds	
Recognize abnormal breath sounds (eg.; Rates, rhonchi)	
IMPLEMENT APPROPRIATE NURSING INTERVENTIONS FOR ABNORMAL BREATH SOUNDS	
Reposition patient	
Pulmonary toilet	
Bronchodilators, diuretics	
Suction, O2	
Airway insertion/management	
RECOGNIZE ABNORMAL BREATHING	
Assess respiratory rate, rhythm, depth, and symmetry	
Labored, dyspneic	
Obstructed	
Laryngospasm	
Insufficient reversal	
PERFORM SUCTIONING	
Oral	
Nasal	
Endotracheal	
Tracheal	
O2 ADMINISTRATION	
Face-trach mask	
Nasal cannula	
T-piece	
ETT mechanical ventilator	
CARE OF PATIENT WITH CHEST TUBE	
Set up closed drainage system	
Recognize air leak	
Assess for subcutaneous emphysema	
Measure drainage	
Troubleshoot problems	
POST-OPERATIVE CARE FOR THE FOLLOWING	
PATIENT POPULATIONS	
Thoracic surgery	
Vascular surgery	
Orthopedic surgery	
Neurosurgery	
Tonsillectomy/P.E. tubes	
Major abdominal surgery	
ENT surgery	
Breast surgery	
Genitourinary surgery	
Hypospadias	
Circumcision	
Gynecological surgery	

Post-angiogram	
Liver biopsy	
Eye surgery	
Cardiac surgery	
CARE OF PATIENT WITH TUBES/DRAINS	
Penrose drain	
Salem	
Sump	
Davol	
Colostomy	
Jejunostomy	
Ileostomy	
Jackson Pratt	
T-Tube	
Foley Catheter	
Urethral	
Suprapubic	
Cystotomy	
NG Tube	
CARDIOVASCULAR	
Placement and care of a patient on cardiac monitor	
Arrhythmia analysis	
Cardioversion and defibrillation	
Assist with insertion of a temporary pacemaker	
Care of patient with a permanent or temporary Pacemaker	
Use of non-invasive temporary pacing equipment	
Care of the patient with intravascular hemodynamic	
Monitoring equipment	
Pulmonary artery catheters	
Arterial catheters	
Swan -Ganz catheters	
Central venous catheters	
Subclavian lines	
Epidural catheters	
Hemodynamic monitoring	
Equipment maintenance	
Dressing changes	
Prevention of complications	
Leveling waveform analysis	
Obtain and interpret	
Cardiac output	
PA Pressure	
PCWP	
CVP	
LAP	
Identify usual dosage, actions and side effects for	
Antiarrhythmics	
Inotropes	
Vasopressors	
Vasodilators	
Reversal Agents	
Muscle relaxants	

Beta-blocker	
Calcium channel blockers	
Inhalation agents	
Calculate infusion rates in dosages ordered	
Interpret blood lab values for	
Electrolyte imbalances/ABG's	

OPERATE AND MONITOR UNIT EQUIPMENT

Portable suction machine	
Transport monitor	
Automatic BP monitor	
Blanket warmer/Bair Hugger	
Sequential compression device	
Pulse oximeter	
Pee Wee weighing scale	
Hyper/hypothermia blanket	
Blood warmer	
PACU stretcher	
IV pumps	
Invasive pressure monitors	
Implements physician orders	
Collaborate with surgeon, anesthesiologist with regard to patient care	
Utilizes appropriate infection control measures	
Practice universal precautions	
Document interventions, outcomes, lab studies	
MD notifications and follow-up care	
Perform a discharge physical assessment	
Level of consciousness	
Pupillary reactions	
Motor and sensory function	
Muscular strength (eg. Hand grasps, head lift)	

ANESTHESIA EQUIPMENT

Blood Warmer	
BP Monitor	
Dinamap	
Omeda	
Defibrillator	
EKG Monitor	
SAO2 Monitor	
Nitrogen Controls	
Tanks	
Wall Units	
Thermia blankets	

AGE SPECIFIC CARE

Please indicate the frequency with which you provide care for each age group in this specialty area.	1	2	3	4
Infant (Birth to 1 year)				
Toddler (1-3 years)				
Pre-school (3-6 years)				
School Age (6-12 years)				
Adolescent (12-18 years)				

Young Adult (18-30 years)					
Mature Adult (30-60 years)					
Elderly (>60 years)					

JCAHO: I acknowledge and understand JCAHO's list of "Do Not Use Abbreviations" :

The information I have given is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have read and fully understand the job description. By signing below or submitting electronically, I attest that the information provided within this skills checklist represents a full and complete disclosure of information, and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I hereby authorize Sagent Healthstaff to release this skills checklist to client facilities for employment purposes.

I agree with the above statements. :

Signature: (please type your full name) :

Date: