

Job Description

Job Title	Staff Nurse
Department	Anaesthesia & PACU
Reports to	Ultimately reports to the Theatre Manager Immediate Supervisor: Assistant Clinical Coordinator Supervisor: Clinical Coordinator
Date	January 2014

Overall Purpose of Job

Provide professional nursing skills in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating the nursing care for assigned patients while providing exceptional patient care in an environment where quality, respect, caring, and compassion are at the centre of all we do.

Key Responsibilities and Deliverables

- Participate as a Recovery Room Nurse, providing physical and psychological care to immediate post-operative patients.
- Work within professional guidelines as laid down by An Bord Altranais Code of Conduct for Nurses.
- Carry out all Recovery Room Nursing practice in accordance with the UPMC Beacon Hospital Theatre and Recovery Room Policies; including the care, control and administration of medicines.
- Maintain accurate nursing records and theatre/recovery records as per hospital policy.
- Collaborate with other Theatre Staff in order to provide a high standard of nursing practice.
- Maintain and update own knowledge continuously, and participate in on-going education.
- Be aware of the hazards which can occur within the Theatre/Recovery Room Department, i.e. electrical, chemical and transport, and initiate preventative measures.
- Monitor and supervise the safe maintenance of equipment – reporting problems to the Clinical Coordinator or her deputy.
- Foster a learning environment for the benefit of staff in Theatre/Recovery Room.
- Assist less experienced staff to develop their skills in Recovery Room Nursing.
- Deputise for the Clinical Coordinator in her absence.
- Assist with the duty roster in order to provide effective staffing cover to meet the needs of the department.
- Rotate within all specialities as required by the Theatre Manager.
- Discuss any problems or potential problems with the Clinical Coordinator or Nurse in Charge.
- Such other duties appropriate to the post as may be assigned from time to time, by the hospital authority through the Director of Nursing Services.
- Keep up to date with mandatory training such as Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS).

Person Specification

Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Bord Altranais Registered General Nurse licence.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 6 months experience in Recovery Room Nursing or one year in an acute hospital setting preferably work experience on a Surgical Ward/Unit. Demonstrate the ability to work as an independent practitioner and to work as a team member.
Job Specific Competencies and Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of the patient's condition on admission to Recovery Room (using ABC and D). Obtain all relevant information from the Anaesthetist on patient's arrival to Recovery Room. Information sought from accompanying nurse to include the patient's details, operation carried out, blood loss, wounds, any drains and skin integrity. Demonstrate the ability to continuously assess and monitor the patient while in Recovery Room. Demonstrate ability to take out the LMA and observe signs and symptoms of airway obstruction. Maintain the patient's confidentiality regarding his/her condition upholding the Code of Professional Conduct at all times. Communicate effectively with the patient during recovery. Provide adequate information and psychological support as appropriate. Monitor and assesses patient's fluid balance to ensure an adequate intake and output post-operatively. Ability to assess wound site and check for signs and symptoms of early post-operative complications while maintaining patient's dignity at all times. Demonstrate ability to perform assessment of drains and catheters (i.e. amount of drainage, patency, colour, insertion site). Record and monitor blood loss accurately, liaising with medical staff where appropriate. Effectively assess patient's level of pain and follows procedure for administration of pain relief (as per hospital policy) at all times. Administration of post-operative analgesia as per hospital guidelines. Accurate dispensing and recording of MDA's as per hospital policy. Maintain body temperature utilising appropriate measures and evaluating care delivered at all times. Demonstrate ability to assess patient readiness for discharge to ward, providing a comprehensive assessment of condition. Demonstrate ability to assess patient using the Discharge Criteria utilised in the Recovery Room. Ensure all documentation is completed, correct and signed accurately and all relevant information for a comprehensive handover is included to ensure the continuity of care on the ward. Demonstrate an efficient and comprehensive handover of all relevant and specific information to the ward staff. Ensure all the equipment and area is prepared for subsequent patients to be accepted into Recovery. Demonstrate awareness of legal and ethical issues (informed consent, FOI Act, Code of Conduct, Scope of Practice). Demonstrate knowledge of emergency drugs and BCLS. Ensure that ACLS certificate is kept up to date Demonstrate knowledge of potential surgical complications and the treatment

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	<p>required in Recovery Room.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Demonstrate knowledge of drugs used, their potential side effects and the reversal agents required.▪ Demonstrate an awareness of the need for constant monitoring of the unconscious and post-operative patient in Recovery.
Personal Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Maintain and update own knowledge continuously, and participate in on-going education.▪ Foster a learning environment for the benefit of staff in Theatre and Recovery Room.▪ Assist less experienced staff to develop their skills in Recovery Room Nursing.▪ Demonstrate leadership and competence in nursing practice.▪ Deliver an efficient and effective quality nursing care within his/her Scope of Practice.

This job description is intended to be an outline of the areas of responsibility and deliverables at the time of its writing. As the Hospital and the post holder develop, this job description may be subject to review in the light of the changing needs of the Hospital.

Job Description received by employee: _____

Signature

Date

Name (in block capitals)