

Code: 4149

Title: PATIENT CARE SERVICES - LEVEL V

SUMMARY: Performs professional patient care services of a specialized nature often requiring clinical judgment.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES: (Work assignments may vary depending on the department's needs and will be communicated to the applicant or incumbent by the supervisor.)

Records and evaluates health, psycho-social and developmental histories of patients;
Maintains vital functions of patients undergoing surgery;
Supervises and participates in administering anesthesia;
Determines quality of health, designs case management plans and initiates treatments and specialty procedures in accordance with specialty role;
Assesses provision of services and plans and coordinates and implements training for professional staff;
Performs complete physical examinations;
Performs, orders and interprets appropriate laboratory screening and other diagnostic tests;
Examines patients and consults with the anesthesiologist concerning type and amount of anesthetic and other drugs to administer;
Monitors patient during post-anesthesia recovery;
Manages the care of women throughout the course of their pregnancy, including ante- and post-partum management, and performs non-complicated deliveries;
Performs special technical procedures as necessary for the care of either obstetrical patients such as endoscopy, amniotomies and the administration of paracervical, local and pudendal anesthesia or for the management of critically ill neonates such endotracheal intubation and lumbar punctures;
Initiates and/or dispenses prescription-only drugs, over-the-counter drugs, and medical devices and/or appliances in accordance with the plan of accountability as approved by the Board of Nursing;
Maintains inventories and records of all drugs received, dispensed and/or prescribed;
May admit patients to hospital, write orders and coordinate patient care during hospital stay;
May act as preceptor for other nurse practitioners, medical students, interns and residents;
May supervise, assign and review the work of professional patient care services personnel.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

Knowledge of:

- the principles, practices and techniques of primary health care;
- practices, programs and protocols pertaining to clinical specialty area;
- health services and their use in the provision of long-range health maintenance;
- diagnostic techniques;
- pharmacology and/or the clinical management of drug therapy;
- the principles and practices of supervising staff.

Skill in:

- evaluating situations, exercising independent judgment, and making critical decisions within guidelines of license;
- conducting interviews, performing physical examinations and making accurate diagnoses;

- designing, initiating and directing a health care function under guidance;
- analyzing data and identifying problems;
- performing patient assessment, including lab and other diagnostic procedures appropriate to the clinical specialty area;
- evaluating the effectiveness of medications and treatments and adjusting as necessary to meet patients needs;
- assigning, evaluating, scheduling and supervising the work of professional patient care services personnel.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

EITHER:

(1) Graduation from an accredited school of professional nursing and certification as a Nurse Practitioner by the State of Arizona in the particular specialty area as defined by the Appointing Authority.

OR:

(2) Successful completion of a Physician's Assistant course and Certification Examination from a college or program accredited by the American Medical Association.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Licenses and Certificates: Possession of a current license to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of Arizona and certification as a Nurse Practitioner by the Arizona State Board of Nursing to practice in a clinical specialty areas or certification as a Physician's Assistant as required by the Arizona Revised Statutes. Prescription and dispensing certification issued by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is required for certain positions within this category. Failure to maintain required licensure and/or certification shall be grounds for termination.

Physical/Sensory Requirements: Positions within this category are routinely required to move and manipulate patients and equipment of various weights and sizes for extended periods of time.

Special Notice Items: Department of Labor regulation CFR Part 1910.1030 requires notification that this category may have a high risk of exposure to blood-borne pathogens. Hepatitis B vaccine will be provided. Due to need for possible access to law enforcement, detention or correction facilities or the supervision of detainees or inmates, some positions in this category may require satisfactory completion of a personal background investigation by law enforcement agencies.

This class specification is intended to indicate the basic nature of positions allocated to the class and examples of typical duties that may be assigned. It does not imply that all positions within the class perform all of the duties listed, nor does it necessarily list all possible duties that may be assigned.