

ASC-PACU RN

Job Summary

The mission of River Road Surgery Center is to perform high quality surgery services in a professional, confidential, and courteous manner; and to provide an atmosphere for its employees that leads to teamwork and a positive work experience.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Graduate of a Professional School of Nursing.
- Current State License as a Registered Nurse.
- Current certification in BLS for Healthcare Professionals.
- Evidence of continuing education.
- Good command of the English language, both verbal and written.
- Ability to work well with providers, employees, patients, and others.
- Current ACLS certification, and PALS certification required.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Requires extensive mobility (walking and standing).
- Periodic pushing, pulling, and lifting of patients and/or equipment.
- May have exposure to patients with communicable diseases.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Anesthesia personnel will accompany the patient to the post-operative area and will give an oral report to the post-operative nurse including the procedure done, type of anesthesia, medications used, and general condition of the patient, including any specific medical problems in the procedure room.
- The nurse will note the level of consciousness of the patient, the adequacy of respiration, the patients' blood pressure and pulse. These parameters should be measured every 5 minutes until they are stable and then every 15-30 minutes as determined by the nurse until dismissal.
- The heparin-lock/IV site, condition of the site, fluid infusing, note the time therapy discontinued and condition of the catheter will be recorded on the peri-operative record.
- Oxygen is started as deemed necessary by the nurse or anesthesia provider.
- Dressings will be checked, and findings documented. Any drains will be noted, and amount of drainage recorded.
- Suctioning may be instituted as indicated.
- The nurse will observe, record, and report any surgery or anesthetic specific considerations (i.e. circulation checks, sensation levels, etc.).
- Post-operative orders will be checked and implemented.
- Safety precautions shall be instituted and maintained until the patient is discharged.

- Medications and IVs shall be ordered and administered as per the written policy. Medications cannot be dispensed by the surgery center to go home with the patient.
- Record all postoperative medications, including take home prescriptions on the patient chart.
- All practitioner and family visits will be charted in the nurses' notes.
- Discharge Procedures.
- All patients must meet the criteria for discharge (see following page). A score of 9 or more is acceptable for discharge using a discharge scoring system.
- For surgeries performed under general, regional, or MAC anesthesia, patients shall remain in the post-operative area until the patient is stable and meets the criteria for discharge.
- For surgeries performed under straight local anesthesia, patients may be discharged immediately after surgery if the vital signs intra-operatively have been stable. Vital signs are taken once and recorded before discharge.
- Post-operative instruction sheets will be given according to policy (see Facility Policy).

After Criteria for Discharge Has Been Met:

- Assist the patient in re-dressing.
- Check patient's surgical dressing prior to the discharge.
- Review discharge instructions and medications with the patient and the family, reminding them to return to the surgeon's office as requested.
- Assist the patient to the car, assuring that the patient is discharged to a responsible adult who will be staying with the patient.
- Chart all of the above in the nursing notes.

River Road Surgery Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.