

17 November 2021

Operating Room nurses

Qualifications:

1) What are the qualifications required to hire nurses into the operating room (OR)?

Band 5 Theatre Nurse – Registered Nurse on Part 1 (adult) of the Nursing and Midwifery Council Register

2) What are the different disciplines working in the OR?

Anaesthetists, Surgeons, Nursing staff, Operating department practitioners, Technician/Critical Care Scientists, Administration, Stock Controller, Portering, PCSS.

Education:

1) What is the standard education for Nurses who work in the OR?

Standard education includes an introduction to perioperative core skills, roles and responsibilities. The basic core skills taught are anaesthetic, scrub, circulating and post-operative recovery nursing.

Teaching methods are supervised practice, mentorship, preceptorship, teaching sessions, reflective accounts, direct observation, shadowing peers, evidence based literature, use of learning contracts to identify learning and development needs with agreed learning outcomes.

2) How long does this education take?

There is a 12 week supernumery period and then continuous development still with the above teaching methods. Should the nurse require more than a 12 week supernumery period, this is facilitated until the nurse is competent.

3) Who provides the education?

Theatre nurses, Theatre managers, Clinical Education Facilitator, Nurse Development lead, Trainers from medical equipment companies, Surgeons, Anaesthetists, Theatre Technicians, critical care scientists.

4) Where is the education based out of? On site? College? University? Online?

Education is based on site, as the Theatre nurse progresses in their career they can apply to do specific perioperative post graduate modules in university and other courses for example with Royal College of Nursing Development, plus on line courses/e-learning and simulation learning.

17 November 2021

Orientation/Education Details:

- 1) How is orientation organized? le) in-class & in-theatres, only in-theatres etc...**

First week is introduction to the theatre environment, corporate mandatory training over one day in class (online).

- 2) How much time is designated to in-class learning? Who provides this education?**

Approximately two to three hours with the Clinical Education Facilitator

- 3) How much time is designated to in-theatre learning? Who provides this education?**

Learning is continuous in the theatre setting and it is provided by theatre nurses and managers, medical staff and clinical education facilitator.

Readiness for workforce:

- 1) How long until the Nurse works as an independent practitioner in the OR?**

6 months to one year

- 2) Do Nurses hired into the OR have a staged integration? EG. Do they train to scrub? Work in this area for a set number of months and then continue one to learn to circulate?**

Yes they have staged integration: 4 weeks in Anaesthetics and 8 weeks in circulating and scrub training.