

**Carolinas Medical Center  
SURGICAL SERVICES  
MEDICAL STUDENT  
ORIENTATION**

**I. Before coming to the Operating Room:                    EAT BREAKFAST!!**

**II. Entering the Operating Room:**

A. Wear proper attire:

1. **Green scrub suit** (Main OR and One Day Surgery.)

<p><b>NOTE: Scrub suits are stored in large rolling bins inside the locker rooms. Please do not wear green scrubs outside of our facility.</b></p>
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2. **Hospital photo ID badge** must be worn at all times above the waist level.
3. **Hat or hood** (all hair must be covered) while in the semi-restricted and restricted areas.)
4. **Shoe covers** (optional but recommended for personal protection when soiling with blood or body fluids is anticipated—e.g. trauma cases.)
5. **Jewelry must be removed;** cover earrings with your hat (dangling earrings are not permitted); a watch and/or a wedding band are allowed, however, they **must** be removed before scrubbing in.
6. Tee shirts or undergarments that protrude beyond the scrub shirt are **not acceptable.**
7. **Masks** are required in the procedure room if an operation is in progress or if a sterile set up is present. Masks are not required in the hallways of the OR suite. **NOTE:** Masks are either tied properly over the nose and mouth or in the trash, not hanging around the neck.
8. **Eye protection** is required when scrubbed in.

B. Always introduce yourself to the circulating nurse. He or she is in charge of the room and needs to know who you are. It is their responsibility to control traffic in the room, protect patient confidentiality and document all who observe and/or participate in the care of the patient. Please leave your pager with your name tag on the circulators desk while you are scrubbed on the case.

C. If you leave the OR (e.g. lunch, lecture) and plan to return to the OR, you must:

1. remove your mask, hat and shoe covers
2. upon returning to OR, don hat, mask and shoe covers (if applicable)

**III. Infection Control/Aseptic Technique Considerations**

A. Environmental Zones

1. unrestricted: street clothes are permitted (e.g. OR Holding Area/Front Desk)
2. semi restricted: scrub attire, and hat required (e.g. hallways outside ORs, sub sterile rooms)
3. restricted: masks required (e.g. all ORs during a procedure or when sterile setup present)

B. Instruments/Equipment: All supplies used within a sterile field must be sterile. All items used on a patient are considered contaminated.

C. Personnel: It is the duty and responsibility of ALL members of the surgical team (whether scrubbed in or not) to observe the sterile field, to point out any breaks in technique, and to take steps to correct such breaks.

**NEVER QUESTION WHEN SOMEONE SAYS  
“IT IS CONTAMINATED”  
DO WHAT IT TAKES TO FIX IT**

**Patient safety is our chief concern**

- E. At the end of the procedure or when you leave the sterile field:
- remove gown first then gloves (this avoids contamination from the gown to your hands)
  - deposit gown and gloves into trash container
  - exit procedure/operating room
  - remove mask, handling strings only, and discard in trash

**IV. Other Safety Considerations:**

**LASER**

1. watch for laser caution signs posted whenever a laser is in use
2. wear eye protection specific to the type laser being used (ask the laser operator or circulating nurse for eye wear)

B. Confine and contain contamination

**C. DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING ON THE MAYO STAND!**

THIS IS THE SCRUBBED PERSON'S TERRITORY AND IT CAN BE A DANGEROUS PLACE, ESPECIALLY WITH MORE THAN ONE PERSON REACHING FOR THINGS.

IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO SELF-SERVE IF THE SCRUBBED PERSON IS IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING SURGICAL COUNTS.

D. **If you get hurt (e.g. needle stick, splashed with blood or body fluid, etc.), report it immediately. Call Employee Health at 704-355-2106 and identify yourself as a medical student.**

E. **FIRE SAFETY:** As you walk around the OR suites, take notice of fire extinguisher, fire pull stations and emergency exits. **For fire or police emergencies dial 52345.**

**V. If you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to call.**

Lori Van Horn, RN, MSN, CNOR      704-355-7774

**GOOD LUCK IN YOUR O.R. ROTATION!**

**Important Phone Numbers**

<b>Main O.R. Front Desk</b>	<b>704-355-8900</b>
<b>One Day Surgery Desk</b>	<b>704-355-5923</b>
<b>Hospital Switchboard</b>	<b>704-355-2000</b>
<b>Security</b>	<b>704-355-3333</b>
<b>Employee Health</b>	<b>704-355-2106</b>