Surgical Technology students benefit from new operating room and equipment

If television shows like Grey’s Anatomy or ER appeal to you, then enroll at Spencerian College where you can prepare to be an operating room start.

Surgical Technologists perform a vital role and Spencerian trains students for employment in a variety of surgical technology settings. And now, the program has gotten even better! Spencerian’s Surgical Technology Diploma program has an expanded Operating Room lab – more than double the size of the previous one-room operating room facility.

Improvements include a separate Scrub Room with a new large lab adjacent to the lab through a swinging stainless steel door. These improvements were accomplished by modifying two existing classrooms. The previous lab was remodeled into a lecture classroom; the new larger lab looks and feels more like an actual operating room with scrub sink area. This much larger, efficient lab provides Spencerian Surgical Technology students with more hands-on experiences and greater opportunities to really “operate.”

Important team member

Surgical technologists, also called “scrub techs,” “surgical techs” or “operating room technicians,” assist in surgeries under the supervision of surgeons, registered nurses or other surgical personnel. Surgical technologists are important members of operating room teams, which include surgeons, anesthesiologists and circulating nurses.

Before an operation, surgical technologists help prepare the operating room by setting up surgical instruments and equipment, sterile drapes and sterile solutions. They assemble both sterile and that it is working properly.

Technologists also prepare patients for surgery by washing, shaving and disinfecting incision sites. They transport patients to the operating room, help position them on the operating room table and cover them with sterile surgical drapes. Technologists also observe patients’ vital signs, check charts and assist the surgical team with putting on sterile gowns and gloves.

And that’s not all!

During surgery, technologists pass instruments and other sterile supplies to surgeons and surgical assistants. They may hold retractors, cut sutures, and help count the sponges, needles, supplies and instruments. Surgical technologists help prepare the area, and dispose of specimens taken for lab analysis and assist in applying dressings. Some surgical technologists operate sterilizers, lights or suction machines, assist with diagnostic equipment, and also clean and restock the operating room.

Great career opportunities

Employment of surgical technologists is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through the year 2010 as the need for skilled health care professionals increases.

Surgical procedures are expected to rise as the population grows and ages. Hospitals will continue as the primary employer, although faster employment growth is expected in clinics, physicians’ offices and ambulatory surgical centers.

Learning from the best

Spencerian’s Surgical Director, Matt Matthews CFA, is a certified Surgical Technologist, and has a background in both back tables and Education. There are three Surgical Technology instructors, all having certification and lots of experience in the field. Clinical experiences are always a major part of training in Surgical Technology. Four certified Clinical instructors having an average of 12 years in the field, oversee the progress of students placed in one of nearly 50 different clinical sites partnering with Spencerian College.

Great partnership for clinical sites

Spencerian has a partnership with renown Norton’s Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. Spencerian students train in surgical arenas and are naturally prime candidates for permanent employment.

Fully accredited

Spencerian’s Surgical Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), on recommendation of the Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology (ARC-ST). Spencerian students are eligible to take the test for certification by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting.