Nursing: Challenges in the Operating Room

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The OR is a unique work environment and requires very high levels of...

- Skill
- Communication
- Respect
- Stress management
- Coping skills
Skill

- Technique in prep and positioning quickly.
- Prioritize and multitask.
- Function Independently
- Equipment

Operating Room Equipment

The nurse is responsible to operate, troubleshoot, and be knowledgeable in all supplies that connect to them.
Cautery
Electrosurgical Generator

Argon Beam Coagulator
Belmont Rapid Transfuser
Defibrillator

TEE

Anesthesia operated but when needed nurse will assist.
Olympus

- EGD
- Bronchoscope
- Laparoscopic Tower

Neptune
Suction Machine
ICP
Intracranial Pressure Monitor

Leica Microscope
Vascular Viewing
Cell Saver
Blood Salvage

Sternal Saw
Comes in pieces. When needed it is needed fast.
Banyan
Computer Routing System

Non-Trauma Equipment

Da Vinci Robot X
Stryker Drill Box
Spy
Alton dean
Berkley
Fracture Table
Beach Chair
Schlein Positioner
Gibiator
Aloka
Spider
Pin Point

Versa Jet
CUSA
Cryo Probe
Arthro Care
Gynecare
Nova Sure
Midas Rex
Welch Allen
Neuro Probe
Stealth
Axiom system
Colposcope

Mizuho OSI
Coseal
Plasma Blade
Tourniquets
Colonoscopy
IV monitors
Transport Monitors
Da Vinci Robot XI
Davol
Fluid Warmers
Cast Vac
Steris Machine
Surgical Instruments

- Thousands of different
  - Clamps
  - Forceps
  - Retractors
  - Scissors
  - Specialty Items
Ochsner or Kocher?

Crile, Hemostat, Snap, Clamp, or Kelly?
Dr. Michael DeBakey
1908–2008

Communication

- Some communication is verbal and some nonverbal.
- Information needs to be relayed quickly, accurately, and confidently.
- The surgeon is the final decision maker in the room but the nurse must have the knowledge, confidence and communication skill to make a decision or voice a concern.
Respect

- Collegial respect is the foundation of effective teamwork and safe patient care.
- Even those that may not get along, respect each other in a trauma.
- Be the ultimate patient advocate. Patients cannot speak for themselves.

Stress

- Surgeons are, classically, demanding.
- Tension can be high, especially with the intensity, complexity, and uncertainty with trauma cases.
Coping

No Closure

I love my job!

- In spite of the difficulties and losses that come with trauma care, every day is exciting, challenging rewarding.