

Course Description

STS2340 | Surgical Pharmacology | 3.00 credits

This course introduces general pharmacological concepts and principles in patient care management. Effective administration of therapeutic drugs, indications, and contraindications are discussed, including effects of medication on body systems, drug classifications, and their principal action. Correct drug and dose identification is emphasized, including medications handled by the surgical technologist on the sterile field.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will compare and contrast the roles of circulating nurse and surgical technologist during the administration of anesthesia by:

1. Explaining the role of the surgical technologist during induction of anesthesia
2. Demonstrating cricoid therapy
3. Demonstrating receiving medication on the back table in the scrub role

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate the precautions when identifying medications and solutions in the operating room by:

1. Explaining labeling of drugs used in the operating room
2. Identifying each name of medications used in surgery
3. Visually recognize differences in surgical medications

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate recognizing the side effects and contraindications for the use of various medications and anesthetic drugs by:

1. Identifying patient allergy by checking armbands
2. Demonstrating knowledge of “time outs” for patient safety
3. Explaining the difference of epinephrine added to surgical medications

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment