

Operating Room Assistant Program

Program Foundations

Mohawk College's Operating Room Assistant (ORA) program is a unique model of flexible education that was developed in partnership with Hamilton Health Sciences & Niagara Health to provide additional Operating Room resources and reduce the significant surgical backlog in our region. The program is delivered as a 12-week competency-based micro-certification consisting of ten (10) weeks of online learning, four (4) full day intensive skills labs in an OR setting, and a condensed clinical placement at their home hospital site.

The OR Assistant Role

Reporting to the Clinical Manager, the Operating Room Assistant works under the supervision and delegatory authority of a surgeon and other regulated surgical team members to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of invasive and non-invasive surgical procedures, ensuring that the operating room environment is safe, that equipment functions properly, and that the operative procedure is conducted under conditions that maximize patient safety. The assistant works with other team members to assist with transferring and positioning patient in preparation for surgical care. They will be responsible for the creation and maintenance of the sterile field through aseptic practices and will be responsible for assembling, setting up and disassembling all surgical cases as well as fully participate in the Surgical Safety Checklist phases of the operative procedure.

Program Structure



10 WEEKS OF VIRTUAL LEARNING

Learners will participate in scheduled class activities 5 days/week for a total of up to 22 hours of synchronous and asynchronous learning. Learners should be scheduled for two clinical observation days per week under the supervision of hospital educators for the duration of their online learning.



4 INTENSIVE SKILLS LABS

Learners will participate in a total of four 8-hour face-to-face skills labs in an OR setting; two at the end of week 5 and two at the end of week 10.



2 WEEK CLINICAL PRACTICUM

Learners will participate in a 2 week clinical practicum at their home hospitals under the supervision of staff educators.

Following completion of the program curriculum and on-site clinical practicum requirement, participants will continue building their competencies during a robust OR clinical orientation developed and delivered by the hospital partners.

Learning Plan Overview

	INTRODUCTION TO PATIENT CARE CONCEPTS/ MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY
	HUMAN ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, PATHOLOGY AND DISEASE
	MICROBIOLOGY
	GENERAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES
	SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE 1
	PHARMACOLOGY
	APPLICATION/TECHNIQUE OF SURGICAL ASEPSIS AND INSTRUMENTATION
	SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE 2
	SPECIALTY SURGICAL PROCEDURES
	SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE 3
	MEDICATION PREPARATION

General Outcomes of the OR Assistant Program

At the end of the course, graduates will have developed the skills and ability to:

- Demonstrate professional competence by meeting all requirements set forth in the Operating Room Assistant Micro-Certification, and be able to demonstrate competence in their specific area of practice within the probationary period
- Provide care which recognizes and respects the dignity, culture and individuality of patients and clients
- Critically evaluate the role of the OR Assistant within the multi-disciplinary healthcare team
- Act in an ethical and accountable manner
- Communicate effectively in all aspects of the profession
- Work as an effective member of the team

CONTACT US

 www.mohawkcollege.ca/centre_for_professional_advancement

 centreforprofessionaladvancement@mohawkcollege.ca