Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic
The Team Behind the Team

Registered Nurse

POSITION SUMMARY

Under the guidance of the physician, assists and participates in all aspects of the medical and potentially surgical care of orthopedic patients by providing diagnostic, preventative, and therapeutic health services to the patient.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Perform comprehensive and problem focused history and physical exams, correlate laboratory and diagnostic procedures, and make critical evaluations.
- Interpret and correlate subjective and objective data to formulate a differential diagnose and establish a working diagnosis.
- Discriminate between normal and abnormal findings to recognize early stages of serious physical problems and implement management in conjunction with the physician.
- Formulate a treatment plan for orthopedic problems within the scope of practice.
- Implement therapeutic intervention for specific conditions when appropriate.
- Exercise judgment on problems requiring consultation, referral, or evaluation by the supervising orthopedic surgeon or other health care professional.
- Under direction of the supervising physician order, collect, and perform appropriate laboratory or diagnostic procedures, and studies including x-ray examinations, MRI, bone scans, etc.
- Prepare patients for surgery, including education, positioning, and skin preparation.
- Perform diagnostic and therapeutic procedures including but not limited brace, cast, and splint applications.
- Assist in surgery (when appropriately credentialed), to include but not limited to superficial tissue closures, application of appliances and any other action delegated by the surgeon.
- See post-op patients, to include wound care, and removal of sutures/staples.
- Evaluate and clarify clinical conditions, formulate and implement treatment or therapeutic plan for patients, dictate discharge summaries, histories and physicals.
- Order, dispense, and administer medication, orthotics, braces and other orthopedic devices as allowed by state legislation.
- Evaluate, screen, and council patient on health maintenance and promote utilization of community resources.
- Manage discharge of patients with appropriate disposition, follow-up planning, adjunctive therapy management, and education.
- Respond to telephone inquiries of patients and provide appropriate medical recommendations.
- Communicate with referring or primary care physicians regarding patient care and treatment.
- Perform other responsibilities associated with this position as deemed appropriate.

GENERAL COMPENTENCIES DESIRED

- Advanced knowledge of medical terminology, especially within orthopedics for the ability to take a detailed medical history, conduct a physical examination, follow verbal and standing orders, perform diagnostic and therapeutic tasks, and to exercise a degree of judgment in integrating and interpreting findings
- Ability to effectively communicate and work with physicians, patients, families, staff, other health care professionals, and management
- Ability to work with and maintain confidentiality of patient
- Ability to work as a true team player seeking continuously to improve the quality of care provided by the Orthopedic surgeon

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PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Requires full range of body motion including handling and lifting patients, manual and finger dexterity and eye-hand coordination. Requires standing and walking for extensive periods of time. Occasionally lift and carries items weighing up to 30 pounds. Requires corrected vision and hearing to normal range. Requires working under stressful conditions or working irregular hours. Requires exposure to communicable diseases or bodily fluids.

CREDENTIALS DESIRED

Associate's degree in nursing (Bachelor’s degree preferred). Must have valid Florida licensure (or eligible).