

## Chapter 1: The Surgical Technologist

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### MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The professional association for surgical technologists is the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
B. American College of Surgeons  
C. Association of Surgical Technologists  
D. Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology

ANS: C

The AST is the surgical technologists' professional organization. The association promotes professional standards by providing services to its members as well as legislative support to promote and formalize the status of surgical technologists.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

2. \_\_\_\_\_ demonstrates that a surgical technologist from an accredited program has achieved a minimum level of knowledge and skills.  
A. Licensure    C. Graduation  
B. An associate's degree                              D. Certification

ANS: D

Certification is a demonstration of competency to a particular standard, usually set by the professional organization.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

3. Certification for the surgical technologist is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. mandatory    C. unnecessary  
B. voluntary    D. invalid

ANS: B

Certification is voluntary and is not required for practice in a profession.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

4. Certification differs from licensure in that certification \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. does not require continuing education credits  
B. allows employers to evaluate prospective employees by one verifiable national standard  
C. is not currently mandatory to practice in all 50 states  
D. is a no-cost exam

ANS: C

Licensure is a process in which the state government issues registration and the right to practice. Certification is not mandatory.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

5. The profession of surgical technologist is defined today as a result of:  
A. less demanding professional needs

- B. rapid monumental developments in technology in general
- C. growing demands in the ancillary departments
- D. advances in digital technology

ANS: B

Rapid monumental developments in technology help define the role of the surgical technologist.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 2

6. The need for assistive personnel in surgery did not arise until:
- A. World War I
  - B. Korean War
  - C. Civil War
  - D. World War II

ANS: D

The need for assistive personnel in surgery did not arise until World War II.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: pp. 2-3

7. During World War I, \_\_\_\_\_ worked on the battlefield to offer aid and comfort to the wounded.
- A. nurses
  - B. assistants
  - C. Corpsmen
  - D. orderlies

ANS: C

During World War I, Corpsmen worked on the battlefield to offer aid and comfort to the wounded.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 2

8. A new profession was born in the Army for the Corpsman; it was named:
- A. Corpsman I
  - B. nurse
  - C. CST
  - D. ORT

ANS: D

ORT, operating room technician, was a new profession born in the Army for the Corpsman.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: pp. 2-3

9. Registered nurses continued to fill the role of the scrub, or 'instrument,' nurse until about:
- A. 1970
  - B. 1965
  - C. 1966
  - D. none of the above

ANS: B

RNs continued to fill the role of the scrub, or instrument, nurse until 1965.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

10. The Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN) published a book called:
- A. The Role of the Operating Room Technician
  - B. Teaching in the Operating Room
  - C. Teaching the Operating Room Technician
  - D. Surgical Techniques for Operating Room Technician

ANS: C

The Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN) published a book called Teaching the

Operating Room Technician.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 3

11. In \_\_\_\_\_ the AORN board of directors created the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. 1968, Association of Operating Room Technicians
  - B. 1965, Association of Operating Room Technicians
  - C. 1968, Association of Operating Room Nurses
  - D. 1967, Association of Operating Room Nurses

ANS: C

In 1968, the AORN board of directors created the Association of Operating Room Nurses.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 3

12. AORT stands for:
- A. Association of Operating Radiology Technician
  - B. Association of Ophthalmic Register Technician
  - C. Association of Operating Respiratory Technician
  - D. Association of Operating Room Technicians

ANS: D

AORT stands for Association of Operating Room Technicians.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 3

13. In an effort to formalize technologist's education, AORT created two new committees, which are the Joint Review Committee and the:
- A. AST
  - B. LCC-ST
  - C. CST
  - D. COURT-ST

ANS: B

In an effort to formalize technologist's education, AORT created two new committees, the Joint Review Committee and the Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist (LCC-ST).

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: pp. 3-4

14. The surgical technologist's professional organization that supports students and graduates is:
- A. LCC
  - B. CST
  - C. AST
  - D. none of the above

ANS: C

The surgical technologist's professional organization that supports students and graduates is the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST).

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 3

15. At the national level, AST provides the following support to students and graduates of surgical technologist and teaching institutions and the public:
- A. maintains practice standards, code of ethics, and code of conduct for the surgical technologist

- B. publishes a professional journal, *The Surgical Technologist*
- C. holds annual conferences for surgical technologist and educators
- D. all the above

ANS: D

At the national level, AST provides the following support to student and graduate of surgical technologist, the public, and teaching institutions: maintains practice standards, code of ethics, and code of conduct for the surgical technologist; publishes a professional journal, *The Surgical Technologist*; and holds Annual Conferences for surgical technologist and educators.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

16. It is important for students to become active members of AST to promote:
- A. standards of the profession
  - B. the Association of Surgical Technology
  - C. the Accrediting Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology
  - D. themselves

ANS: A

It is important for surgical technology students to become active members of the AST and to promote the standards of the profession.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

17. As a body of professionals, surgical technologists are supported by a number of key organizations and partners. Each has a designated role in:
- A. certification, standards, continuing education, and promotion
  - B. continuing education, promotion, standards, and accreditation
  - C. standards, continuing education, accreditation, and promotion
  - D. promotion, certification, accreditation, and continuing education

ANS: D

As a body of professionals, surgical technologists are supported by a number of key organizations and partners. Each has a designated role in promotion, certification, accreditation, and continuing education.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

18. The Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA) provides educational recommendations and \_\_\_\_\_ required for accreditation of programs in surgical technology and surgical first assisting.
- A. guidelines
  - B. rules
  - C. standards
  - D. grades

ANS: C

The Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA) provides educational standards and recommendations required for accreditation of programs in surgical technology and surgical first assisting.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

19. Which of the following organizations oversees certification and credentialing for the surgical technologist?

- A. AORN
- B. AST

- C. NBSTSA
- D. CAAHEP

ANS: C

The National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) oversees certification and credentialing of surgical technologist and surgical assistants.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: pp. 3-4

20. Accreditation is granted to a school only after:

- A. review of curriculum
- B. full on-site visit
- C. after council review at the end of year
- D. curriculum is submitted

ANS: B

Accreditation is granted to a school only after a full on-site evaluation of the program and its facilities to ensure compliance with ARC/STSA standards.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

21. Surgical technologists are trained in:

- A. 2-year colleges
- B. military
- C. proprietary certificate programs
- D. all the above

ANS: D

Surgical technologists are trained in 2-year colleges, the military, and proprietary certificate programs.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

22. The Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) is another \_\_\_\_\_ accrediting body.

- A. for-profit
- B. nonprofit
- C. semi-profit
- D. none of the above

ANS: B

ABHES is another nonprofit accrediting body.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 3

23. Certification through the Association of Surgical Technologist requires:

- A. graduation from an ABHES-accredited school
- B. graduation from an Armed Forces program
- C. graduation from a CAAHEP-accredited school
- D. all the above

ANS: D

Certification through the Association of Surgical Technologist requires graduation from an CAAHEP-accredited school, ABHES-accredited school, and federally sponsored Armed Forces program.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

24. Certification demonstrates:

- A. standard of knowledge

- B. advanced level competencies
- C. understanding of the principles and practices of surgery
- D. support for NBSTSA

ANS: A

Certification demonstrates a standard of knowledge and understanding of the principles of surgical technology.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

25. To be eligible to take the certification exam, the applicant must meet all requirements EXCEPT:
- A. be a graduate of an accredited program (ABHES and CAAHEP)
  - B. currently be a CST
  - C. be a graduate of military program
  - D. have 7 of the last 10 years documented scrub experience

ANS: D

Individuals must be a graduate of an accredited program (CAAHEP and ABHES), currently a CST, and a graduate from a military program.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

26. The National Center for Competency Test requires applicants to have the following:
- A. high school diploma or GED
  - B. be a graduate of formal operating room technician (ORT) training program
  - C. A and B
  - D. none of the above

ANS: C

NCCT applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, be a graduate of an ORT training program, and have 7 years of validated scrub experience within the past 10 years.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

27. Suzie has taken the CST exam and passed. For Suzie to keep her certification without retaking the exam, she must do one of the following:
- A. attend the national conference
  - B. maintain continuing education (CE) credits
  - C. nothing
  - D. attend all state meetings

ANS: B

CE credits provide an opportunity for professionals to improve their knowledge and competency.

PTS: 1                      DIF: 1                      REF: p. 4

28. The stated goals of a career ladder are primarily to do all the following EXCEPT:
- A. improve patient care
  - B. promote accountability
  - C. encourage employer recognition of the surgical technologist
  - D. encourage experienced surgical technologists to contribute to the professional growth of their own career

ANS: D

The stated goals of a career ladder are primarily to improve patient care, encourage employer recognition of the surgical technologist, promote accountability, increase the visibility of the surgical technologist's role in the health care facility, and encourage experienced surgical technologists to contribute to the professional growth of others.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: pp. 4-5

29. The nonsterile member of the surgical team is called:
- A. assistant
  - B. scrub
  - C. circulator
  - D. surgeon

ANS: C

The circulator is a nonsterile team member.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 6

30. The surgical technologist who works in a hospital or other facility that provides 24-hour care is usually required to:
- A. take a break every hour
  - B. be on "call"
  - C. nothing
  - D. none of the above

ANS: B

The surgical technologist who works in a hospital or other facility that provides 24-hour care is usually required to be on "call."

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 6

31. The larger picture casts the surgical technologist's role as a combination of four main areas of health care and technology EXCEPT:
- A. educator and preceptor
  - B. participant in leadership and management
  - C. patient care provider in the perioperative setting
  - D. specialist in sterilization

ANS: D

The larger picture casts the surgical technologist's role as a combination of four main areas of health care and technology: assistant in surgical procedures as part of the surgical team; specialist in the preparation, handling, and use of surgical devices, equipment, and instruments; patient care provider in the perioperative setting; participant in leadership and management, and educator and preceptor.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 7

32. James is a new graduate, and he is looking for a job in surgical technology. Career services has met with him and had him fill out applications for the following jobs. Of the following job fields, which one does James not qualify for as a new graduate?
- A. CST
  - B. central processing manager
  - C. VA hospital, ST position
  - D. specialty technician
  - E. research and development representative

F. medical industrial representative

G. educator

ANS: G

RATIONALE Public trust means that patients, their families, and others in the care environment maintain a high level of confidence in the professionals who care for them. Entry-level certification plus at least 2 years of experience in surgery are the minimum requirements for an educator position.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 8

33. \_\_\_\_\_ has particular attributes, attitude, and behavior that reflect a high standard of accountability, ethics, honesty, and respect for people.

A. Someone highly trained

C. A professional

B. Someone who uses his or her skills

D. Surgical technologist

ANS: C

Professionals have particular attributes, attitude, and behavior that reflect a high standard of accountability, ethics, honesty, and respect for people.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 8

34. \_\_\_\_\_ means that patients, their families, and others in the care environment maintain a high level of confidence in the professionals who care for them.

A. Patients' trust

C. Doctors' trust

B. Staff trust

D. Public trust

ANS: D

Public trust means that patients, their families, and others in the care environment maintain a high level of confidence in the professionals who care for them.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 9

35. \_\_\_\_\_ means to be trustworthy, reliable, and responsible, not only on the job, but at all times and in all areas of one's life.

A. Consistency in character and behavior

B. Personal integrity

C. Respect for rules, regulations, and law

D. Discretion and tact

ANS: B

Personal integrity means to be trustworthy, reliable, and responsible, not only on the job, but at all times, in all areas of one's life.

PTS: 1

DIF: 1

REF: p. 9

36. \_\_\_\_\_ is when a professional maintains professional demeanor even under stress.

A. Consistency in character and behavior

B. Personal integrity

C. Respect for rules, regulations, and law

D. Discretion and tact

ANS: A



Consistency in character and behavior is when a professional maintains professional demeanor even under stress.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 9

37. \_\_\_\_\_ is when health care professionals are required to comply with many types of regulations and rules, including those of their institution (school or health facility), state, and federal laws.
- A. Consistency in character and behavior
  - B. Personal integrity
  - C. Respect for rules, regulations, and law
  - D. Discretion and tact

ANS: C

Respect for rules, regulations, and law is when health care professionals are required to comply with many types of regulations and rules, including those of their institution (school or health facility), state, and federal laws.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 9

38. \_\_\_\_\_ requires health professionals to work in many difficult situations requiring diplomacy and good judgment.
- A. Consistency in character and behavior
  - B. Personal integrity
  - C. Respect for rules, regulations, and law
  - D. Discretion and tact

ANS: D

Health professionals work in many difficult situations requiring discretion and tact.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 9

39. The successful surgical technologist usually possesses the qualities of \_\_\_\_\_. Once the professional begins working, these qualities can be enhanced through personal growth, or they can be lost through job stress or personal crisis.
- A. professional and personal growth
  - B. surgical conscience and sterile technique
  - C. caring and empathy
  - D. communication skills and interpersonal relations

ANS: C

A person who chooses to enter a health care profession usually has the qualities of care and empathy.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 9

40. The surgical technologist can achieve career goals in a variety of settings, whether it is a high-profile institution, military post in a war zone, or a \_\_\_\_\_ setting.
- A. small, hospital-based
  - B. large, hospital-based
  - C. small, community-based
  - D. large, community-based

ANS: C

The surgical technologist can achieve career goals in a variety of settings, whether it is a

high-profile institution, military post in a war zone, or a small, community-based setting.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 9

41. Suzie was working on an emergency c-section. Suzie was in a rush and did not have good \_\_\_\_\_, which caused her to misplace an instrument.

A. manual dexterity C. organizational skills  
B. ability to concentrate D. problem-solving skills

ANS: C

A surgical technologist is required to have good organizational skills.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 10

42. Suzie was scheduled to scrub a total knee replacement. This case requires Suzie to have \_\_\_\_\_, which allows her to work quickly and deftly, sometimes with complex or very small instruments.

A. manual dexterity C. organizations skills  
B. ability to concentrate D. problem-solving skills

ANS: A

The surgical technologist must work quickly and deftly, sometimes with complex or very small instruments.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 10

43. The surgical technologist is in motion during most of the procedure, preparing equipment or passing instruments in the correct spatial position. This requires moderate to intense \_\_\_\_\_.

A. manual dexterity C. organizational skills  
B. concentration D. problem-solving skills

ANS: B

The surgical technologist is in motion during most of the procedure, preparing equipment or passing instruments in the correct spatial position. This requires moderate to intense levels of concentration.

PTS: 1 DIF: 1 REF: p. 10

## MATCHING

*Match each item with the correct acronym.*

A. NBSTSA	I. ACS
B. ABHES	J. RN
C. ARC/STSA	K. CST
D. CAAHEP	L. NCCT
E. AORN	M. STCR
F. AST	N. LPN
G. ORT	O. LCC-ST
H. CFA	

1. Surgical Technologist Circular Role

2. Operating Room Technician
3. National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting
4. Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
5. Licensed practical nurse
6. Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
7. Liaison Council on Certification for Surgical Technologist
8. Registered nurse
9. Association of Surgical Technologists
10. Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
11. American College of Surgeons
12. Certified surgical technologist
13. Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting
14. Certified first assistant
15. National Center for Competency Testing

1. ANS: M	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 5
2. ANS: G	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 2-3
3. ANS: A	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 3-4
4. ANS: E	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
5. ANS: N	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 4
6. ANS: B	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
7. ANS: O	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
8. ANS: J	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 4
9. ANS: F	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
10. ANS: D	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
11. ANS: I	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 1
12. ANS: K	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
13. ANS: C	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 3
14. ANS: H	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 7
15. ANS: L	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 4

*Match the definition with the role of the surgical technologist. You will use the same answer more than once.*

- |                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. Scrub role          | E. Preceptor                  |
| B. Circulator          | F. Instrumentation specialist |
| C. ST circulating role | G. Leadership and management  |
| D. Second assistant    |                               |

16. Maintain retraction of tissue
17. Scrub, gown, and glove self and team members
18. Communicate effectively with surgeon to prevent errors, such as passing the wrong instrument or passing it in the wrong position
19. Nonsterile team member who assists the RN
20. Assist with hemostasis as directed by the surgeon
21. Specialist in the preparation, handling, and use of instruments
22. Irrigating the surgical wound, especially in microsurgery
23. Teaching others while scrubbed

24. Pursue an advanced degree in hospital administration and management
25. Skills and knowledge required for this role are the processes of sterilization and disinfection, inspection of and troubleshooting equipment, and assembly of instrument tray
26. Maintain a “dry” surgical site by operating suction devices and appropriate use of surgical sponge
27. Ensure patient chart, including results of diagnostic procedures, permits, and preoperative checklist, accompanies the patient into surgery
28. Prepares instruments and supplies on the sterile field
29. Role is fulfilled by a registered nurse
30. A teacher
31. The nonsterile person who performs patient care procedures, obtains and delivers the equipment needed for a surgery case, opens sterile supplies, and assists in positioning the patient on the operating table
32. Facilitating safety and emergency protocols
33. Assist surgeon in specific, well-defined task as needed during the procedure

16.	ANS: D	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
17.	ANS: A	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 5-6
18.	ANS: A	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 5-6
19.	ANS: C	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
20.	ANS: D	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
21.	ANS: F	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
22.	ANS: D	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
23.	ANS: E	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 7
24.	ANS: G	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 6-7
25.	ANS: F	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
26.	ANS: D	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
27.	ANS: B	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
28.	ANS: A	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 5-6
29.	ANS: B	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
30.	ANS: E	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 7
31.	ANS: C	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 6
32.	ANS: G	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 6-7
33.	ANS: A	PTS: 1	DIF: 3	REF: pp. 5-6

*Match the following definitions with the correct term.*

- |                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Facility-based ST  | E. Educator and clinical instructor |
| B. Military service   | F. Medical industry representative  |
| C. Specialty practice | G. Central processing management    |
| D. CST-CFA            | H. Research product and development |
34. Work in research product and development in the area of surgical instruments, supplies, and devices
  35. Designs and develops the curriculum for the institution and manages departments
  36. Complex job involving many disciplines: basic patient care; team-building skills; organization, use, and care of surgical instruments and devices; principles and practice of sterile technique and surgical procedures
  37. Assists in surgical procedures to retract tissue and aid in exposure, hemostasis, close tissue planes, and other intraoperative techniques while under supervision of the surgeon

38. Education program parallels civilian requirements, with additional training in combat and war surgery and in golden hour treatment
39. The scope of duties and responsibilities includes disinfection and sterilization processes, assembly of surgical instrument sets, and management of complex instruments systems.
40. Promote the company's equipment but also has the technical expertise to troubleshoot problems
41. The hospital-based surgical technologist may specialize in one or more surgical specialties such as orthopedics, neurosurgery, cardiac surgery, obstetrics, or plastic surgery

34.	ANS: H	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 8
35.	ANS: E	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 8
36.	ANS: A	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 7
37.	ANS: D	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: pp. 7-8
38.	ANS: B	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 7
39.	ANS: G	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 8
40.	ANS: F	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 8
41.	ANS: C	PTS: 1	DIF: 2	REF: p. 7