HEALTHTRUST
Workforce Solutions

DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

Division: NORTH TEXAS
Classification: Non-Certified Pathologists' Assistant
Applicant Name:

Non-Certified Pathology Assistant:
The Non-Certified Pathology Assistant must have equivalent qualifications and competence as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility.

Definition of Care or Service:
The Non-Certified Pathology Assistant does specimen handling and processing of tissues submitted to the Pathologist for tissue analysis. In this role, the Pathology Assistant is academically and practically trained to provide accurate and timely processing of a variety of laboratory specimens, including the majority of pathological specimens. They are key components in the process of making a pathologic diagnosis, but it is the sole province of the pathologist to render a diagnosis. The scope of service may include:

- Filling out appropriate paperwork, labeling and staining slides, accession cases and recording information provided by the pathologist
- Help package specimens for transport
- Prepare tissue for numerous pathological tests
- Participate in the examination, sectioning and processing of tissue samples
- Participate in the gross autopsy dissection
- Preparation, gross description and sectioning of human tissue surgical specimens
- Examination of specimens will include those that are completely submitted for microscopic examination (e.g., uterine curetting's, endoscopic biopsies, skin excisions, etc.), those that are received in un-oriented pieces that are selectively sampled (e.g., prostate chips, products of conception), and uncomplicated larger specimens that are examined and sampled by routine protocols (e.g., appendices, gallbladders, uterine cone excisions, hemorrhoids, uncomplicated uteri, placentas, etc.). All other specimens will be handled in consultation with a pathologist or deferred to the pathologist for examination.
- Perform the technical components of frozen sections, preparing touch imprints, assisting with the gross dissection of autopsies, and performing routine duties in the Histology Laboratory, e.g., picking up specimens, accessioning of specimens in the computer, and cassette preparation.
- Documents the procedure in the medical record
- Maintains and secures patient specimens and records
- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include HCA Healthcare code of conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians

Setting(s):

- Healthcare facilities including but not limited to hospitals, outpatient treatment facilities, imaging centers, and physician practices

Supervision:

- Supervision by the Pathologist

Evaluator: Department director or designee in conjunction with supervising pathologist.

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Tier Level: 3

eSAF Access Required: YES

Qualifications:

- Associates Degree or higher

NOTE: Where education may not be defined in qualifications area of the Scope, HCA Healthcare requires the highest level of education completed (not training or courses) confirmed on your background check.

State Requirements:

- N/A

Experience:

- 10 years of performing gross dissections.

Competencies:

The Non-Certified Pathology Assistant will demonstrate:

- Safe and effective operation of pathology equipment
- Maintains equipment in good working order
- Demonstrates effective infection control practices related to equipment operation
- Accurate patient information review and evaluation
- Uses at least two patient identifiers for patient identification before assisting in a procedure
- Accurately obtains clinical history and obtains medical records/charts for review
- Verifies that the requested procedure correlates with the patient's clinical history, presentation and physician order
- Follows HIPAA and HITECH policies.
- Accesses the patient medical record appropriately and documents in the medical record according to the facility standard / policy
- Demonstrates competency in specimen accessioning
- Appropriately describes gross features of surgical specimens
- Accurately prepares tissues for processing for light microscopy
- Accurately prepares samples for studies such as flow cytometry, image analysis, research, cytogenetics, cultures, electron microscopy, immunofluorescence
- Accurately prepares frozen sections.
- Assures legal authorization for autopsy gross specimens and microscopic slides
- Maintenance of surgical/ autopsy pathology protocols, procedures, reports and data
- Assures proper maintenance of equipment
- Assures provision of adequate supplies for and cleanliness of the surgical and autopsy suites
- Assists in preparation for accreditation inspections (CAP, TJC)
- Maintains a safe environment
- Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and is compliant with Infection prevention policies.
- Consistently practices good hand hygiene.
- Maintains current immunization for influenza and/or follows influenza immunization policy
- Complies with Isolation precautions
- Maintains Sterile supplies

References:

Assistants, A. A. (2010). WHAT IS A PATHOLOGISTS' ASSISTANT. Retrieved June 6, 2012, from American

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Association of Pathologist Assistants: (Clinical Privilege White Paper, 2006)http://pathassist.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=35
Clinical Privilege White Paper Pathologists assistants. (2006). Retrieved from A supplement to briefings on credentialing 781/639-1872.
ASCP Board of Certification:
https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/verify-credentials

Your signature confirms you will be able to comply with the Qualifications and Competencies listed within this Scope of Service and that you will confirm education via your background check.

Applicant Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____