

Suggested Time Line for BCIT BSN Students in the OR

Please use in conjunction with Guidelines for Students in the Perioperative setting found on the Preceptor Web Site and Preceptorship 2 D2L.

Week 1: Students: Practice gowning, gloving, surgical scrub. Observe some simple/noncomplex surgeries. Practice how to gown/glove yourself and others i.e. surgeons. Ask for homework related to memorizing instruments used for the surgeries you are observing. Practice loading sutures and blades, setting up mayo trays, etc. Be confident to ask lots of good questions. Start to feel less overwhelmed in this new setting.

Preceptors: Feel free to teach and explain what you are doing. This is a unique and new environment for the student.

Weeks 2/3: Preceptors: It is best to be in consistent surgical cases for each of the weeks (if possible) i.e.: Gyne surgery one week, general surgery another week (or longer), ENT another week. It is best to start with simple non complex cases and have repetition with these cases throughout the week.

Students: You should note the surgeries for the following day that are assigned to your preceptor. You should look at the surgeon preference card and think about what you need to learn in preparation for the surgery. Keep observing during surgeries but as well you can start to pass some instruments under the direction of your preceptor. Throughout these weeks you can aim to gain independence and efficiency in "setting up" for repeated surgeries. Discuss the use and name of each instrument with your preceptor. Focus on memorizing the different instruments as you observe and assist with different surgeries. Start counting in and out under preceptor supervision. Gain some experience under the supervision of your preceptor in the circulating nurse role. Become familiar with the charting done by perioperative nurses.

Preceptors: The student should be keen, curious, engaged and be making the effort to learn. The students practice should be safe.

Weeks 4/5: Midterm Evaluation is done during Week 4. The BCIT Preceptor Instructor will meet with both preceptor and student. This is most often done near or at the end of the shift.

Preceptors: The student is able to competently scrub in for non complex surgeries. She/he can gown/glove themselves and the surgeon and others competently. The student should be passing instruments under supervision of the preceptor in straight forward surgeries such as hernia repair. The student should be moving towards more independence and increased speed in "setting up" for surgeries they have participated in.

Students: This is the time to think more critically now. Start being an active decision maker. At this point you should have a better understanding of the complexity of the circulating nurses role.

Weeks 6 /7:

Preceptors: The student should continue to scrub in for different surgeries. Keep gaining weekly experience with different cases; for example ortho, ENT, urology. Gain speed in passing instruments, setting up for the surgeries, change overs, etc. During the last two weeks (Week 7 and 8) the student may be able to scrub on own with your supervision for some non complex surgeries. The student should become practiced with prepping the patient, draping, and working with the anesthetist.

Students: You should be able to answer “so what would you do questions” from preceptor. You should take initiative, for example calling for surgical pause.

Week 8: Final Evaluation is done during this week.

Preceptors: The student should....

- Gain a level of comfort and confidence in nursing in the OR.
- Should be making connections with a variety of the staff.
- Be adaptable and safe.
- Should use professional communication; both verbal and written.
- Be able to do some solo scrubbing (with preceptor in room) in non complex cases.
- Be consistently prepared for the OR clinical experiences.
- Gain more circulating nurse experiences, for example doing admissions and taking history.