PROTOCOL OF ASSISTING DURING AN OPERATIVE PROCEDURE

1. Assisting the Anesthetist
   - Check the central oxygen levels
   - Connect IV fluids, monitors
   - Adjust the position suitable for anesthesia
   - Help the anesthetist to prep the area, if spinal or load the medicines if spinal/general anesthesia

2. Assisting the surgeon – Floor nurse

Receive the patient from the ward, from the staff nurse. Details obtained are
- Particulars of the patient
- Elective/Emergency
- Diagnosis
- Procedure planned
- Consent obtained
- Pre-medications administered
- Whether pre-operative instructions have been followed and patient is prepared
- Confirm removal of jewellery/ornaments
- Patency of IV Canula
- Patient records – files, X-rays, investigation reports.
- OT dress has been changed into

- Make the patient wear the OT cap
- Transfer the patient from the wheelchair/trolley to the operation table
- After anesthesia induction, clear the operative site
- Remove the patient’s gown and keep it in the un-sterile zone
- Floor nurse coordinates her activities with anesthetist and surgeon and scrub nurse
- Scrub nurse, scrubs, gowns and opens the set
- Scrub nurse arranges the set and checks certain instrument like blades, drill, Humby’s knife.
- Back out form the Sterile zone and circulate in semi-sterile zone
- Handing over of lines/instruments to the operating staff
- Attending to all requirements as and when sought
- Coordinating with other medical/paramedical staff during the course of the operation
- Being prepared to scrub if needed
- On the completion of operation, counting the instruments, sponges, needles
- Assist to shift the patient from the operating table to the trolley
- Shifting the trolley to the operating theatre door
- Switch off the OT light
- Handing over the patient to the ward/ICU nurse
- Enter the operating details in a register
- Coordination with the floor nurse to clean the operation theatre
- Sorting of the used/soiled linen
- Disposal of biomedical waste
- Cleaning of instruments
3. Assisting the surgeon - Scrub Nurse

- Bringing the instruments trolley and paint the trolley with betadine
- Remove the drape/rubber sheet from the container and spread it on the trolley (instrument/linen), using cheattle forceps
- Transfer the linens from the bin to the trolley
- Arrange to instruments in a designated fashion in the trolley and count them
- Drape the two trolleys with small drapes
- Pass the gown, gloves to the surgeon.
- Handover the paint and drapes to the surgeon
- Coordinate with the floor nurse for passing consumables
- Connect various tubes and wires as required
- Pass the instruments to the surgeon as required
- Instrument count at the end of the procedure
- Cleaning the stains from the operation site
- Assist in Surgical site dressing
- Re-gowning the patient
- De-scrubbing