

Welcome to Orthopedics!

Arrival & Assignments

- **Arrive by 06:30 AM** in the Mercy 6 break room.
- **First day only:** Meet in the Covenant Medical Center lobby near Starbucks.
- I will provide you with your daily assignment. Be sure to introduce yourself to your nurse and join bedside report.
- You will be assigned **one patient** for the shift and will perform all responsibilities as the TPCN. After report, discuss with the nurse which patient might be best for you to use for your assignment.

Daily Schedule

06:30 AM

- Be ready to start the day with material for clinical.

07:15 AM

- Obtain and document vital signs.
- Notify your nurse if there are any abnormal findings.
- Complete physical assessment. Try to at least assess your patient before 09:00 AM. Think of this as your patient's baseline and overall condition to guide care during the shift.

08:00-10:00 AM

- Begin medication administration. I will give medications with half of you the first day and the other half the second day.
- If I am not giving medications with you, you may give them with your nurse.
- **Never carry or give medications without a licensed professional.**
- Before giving medications:
 - Know the medication's purpose.
 - Check relevant labs and pertinent information.
 - Prepare to educate your patient. This does not need to be memorized; you can prepare notes and take them with you.

10:00-11:00 AM

- Submit your physical assessment sheet checklist for me to review.
- Catch up on daily duties: noon vital signs, baths, linen changes, blood sugar checks, and medications.

11:30 AM

- Finish tasks:
 - Clean patient's room.
 - Empty trash.
 - Refresh water pitcher.
 - Assess the Four P's (Pain, Potty, Position, Possessions).
 - Thank your patient for letting you assist in their care.
- Inform CNA that you completed vital signs and charted them. Be sure to chart bath and linen changes.
- Notify your nurse before leaving and thank them for their time.

12:00 PM

- Post-Conference:
 - Tuesday: Prepare to present an SBAR on your patient to the group.
 - Wednesday: Prepare to discuss pathophysiology related to your patient.

Clinical Tips

- Do not sit at the nurse's station.
- Answer call lights promptly.
- Help with ambulation and daily tasks.
- Learn from PT, OT, wound care, doctors, and other healthcare professionals.
- Ask questions and shadow procedures when possible.
- Always inform me if you leave the unit to go with your patient or nurse.
- Bring a snack (lunch will be after clinical debrief).

First Week Medication Prep

- Look up these five medications:
 1. *Vancomycin*
 2. *Metoprolol*
 3. *Prednisone*
 4. *Ondansetron*
 5. *Levofloxacin*
- Medication sheets are due at 6:30 AM on the first day of clinical.

Clinical Paperwork

- Will be completed in ATI (see Clinical Paperwork Guidelines in LMS)
- Gather all necessary information from your patient's chart before leaving the unit.
- Include six medications from your patient's chart that you administered or were ordered.
- Clinical paperwork in ATI will close on **Friday at 2359** that same week.

Absence Policy & Contact

- Notify me ASAP if you will be absent.
- Text or call **before 06:30 AM** on the day of clinical.
- **Contact: Mrs. Payne- 406-209-6691**