



KING EDWARD VII's  
HOSPITAL

## King Edward VII's Hospital

### Job Description

#### Lead Theatre Scrub Practitioner – Orthopaedics/Spinal

<b>Job Title:</b>	Lead Theatre Practitioner
<b>Department:</b>	Theatres
<b>Speciality:</b>	Orthopaedics/Spinal & Surgical First Assistant
<b>Report to:</b>	Theatre Manager
<b>Hours:</b>	Full-Time 37.5
<b>Contract:</b>	Permanent

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#### Position Summary:

The Lead Theatre Practitioner and Surgical First Assistant (SFA) specialising in Orthopaedic-Spinal surgery will play a key role in the perioperative team, ensuring the efficient and safe delivery of orthopaedic and spinal surgical procedures. Reporting to the Theatre Manager, the successful candidate will demonstrate expert clinical skills, leadership abilities, and a commitment to delivering exceptional patient care.

#### Key Responsibilities:

##### 1. Clinical Assistance:

- Provide expert clinical assistance during orthopaedic and spinal surgical procedures, ensuring the highest standards of patient safety and care.
- Act as the Surgical First Assistant (SFA), demonstrating proficiency in surgical techniques, instrument handling, and tissue manipulation.
- In addition to orthopaedic and spinal surgery, the Lead Theatre Practitioner and Surgical First Assistant (SFA) should demonstrate proficiency in assisting across various surgical specialities, including but not limited to Gynaecology, General Surgery, and Urology.

##### 2. Leadership and Coordination:

- Lead the theatre team during orthopaedic-spinal surgeries, coordinating activities and fostering effective communication among team members.
- Assist in the preparation of patients for surgery, including positioning, prepping, and draping, while adhering to strict aseptic techniques.

**3. Instrumentation Management:**

- Anticipate the needs of the surgeon during procedures, providing the necessary instrumentation, implants, and equipment promptly and accurately.
- Maintain an inventory of surgical instruments and equipment, ensuring proper sterilisation, storage, and maintenance according to hospital protocols.

**4. Documentation and Quality Assurance:**

- Accurately document all relevant information about surgical procedures, including preoperative assessments, intraoperative details, and postoperative care plans.
- Participate in quality improvement initiatives, audits, and clinical governance activities to uphold the highest standards of patient care and safety.

**5. Training and Development:**

- Facilitate the training and mentorship of junior theatre staff, sharing expertise and best practices in orthopaedic-spinal surgery.
- Collaborate with the education department to develop and deliver training programmes for theatre staff.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

- Registered Nurse (RN) or Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) with current registration
- Extensive experience in orthopaedic and spinal surgery, with a minimum of 2 years at a senior level.
- Certification as a Surgical First Assistant (SFA)
- Previous management or supervisory experience within a theatre or perioperative department.
- Strong leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Commitment to ongoing professional development and continuing education.

**Person Specification**

Criteria	Essential Requirement	Desirable Requirement
<b>Qualifications:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registered Nurse (RN) or Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) with current registration and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of additional postgraduate qualifications relevant to perioperative nursing or operating department practice.</li> </ul>

	<p>practising privileges with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) or the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certification as a Surgical First Assistant (SFA)</li> </ul>	
<b>Clinical Experience:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive experience working in a perioperative setting, with a focus on orthopaedic and spinal surgery.</li> <li>• Minimum of 2 years' experience at a senior level, demonstrating proficiency in assisting during complex surgical procedures.</li> <li>• Demonstrate proficiency in assisting across various surgical specialities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional experience in other surgical specialties beyond orthopaedic and spinal surgery.</li> </ul>
<b>Surgical Skills:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated expertise in surgical techniques, instrument handling, and tissue manipulation relevant to orthopaedic-spinal surgery.</li> <li>• Certification as a Surgical First Assistant (SFA) is highly desirable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in advanced surgical techniques specific to complex orthopaedic-spinal procedures.</li> <li>• Experience with the latest advancements in surgical technology and equipment used in orthopaedic-spinal surgery.</li> </ul>
<b>Leadership and Management:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous experience in a management or supervisory role within a theatre or perioperative department.</li> <li>• Strong leadership skills with the ability to effectively coordinate and motivate a multi-disciplinary team.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of leadership or management courses relevant to healthcare settings.</li> <li>• Demonstrated success in implementing quality improvement initiatives or leading change projects within a surgical environment.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Communication and Interpersonal Skills:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, with the ability to communicate effectively with surgeons, anaesthetists, and other healthcare professionals.</li> <li>• Strong interpersonal skills, with the ability to build rapport and work collaboratively within a team environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of effective conflict resolution skills and the ability to manage challenging interpersonal situations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Organisational Skills:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent organisational skills with the ability to prioritise workload and manage resources effectively to ensure the smooth running of surgical services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in project management or leading service improvement projects within a healthcare setting.</li> <li>• Proficiency in utilising electronic healthcare systems or theatre management software.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adaptability and Flexibility:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to work effectively in a fast-paced and dynamic environment, demonstrating flexibility and adaptability to meet the changing needs of the department and patients.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of successful adaptation to new surgical procedures or technologies in a fast-paced clinical setting.</li> </ul>

**General Information**

This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of duties, but mainly to highlight the current main responsibilities of the post. The post holder is required to undertake any other similar duties, as required by their manager and the changing requirements of the organisation.

This job description may be reviewed and altered in the light of changed service needs and developments after discussion with the post holder.

The post holder will be required to comply with all policies and procedures issued by and on behalf of King Edward VII's Hospital.

The Hospital is an equal opportunities employer, and the post holder will be expected to promote this in all aspects of his/her work.

### **Confidentiality**

All information in relation to patients and staff must be held in the strictest confidence and may not be divulged to any unauthorised person at any time without the authorisation of your manager or unless it is in the best interest of the individual. The post holder must maintain the confidentiality of information about patients, staff, and other Hospital service business in accordance with the Code of Confidentiality and the Data Protection Act 1998. A breach of confidentiality in relation to manual or computer data will result in disciplinary action being taken in accordance with the Hospital's disciplinary procedure and may lead to dismissal.

Health and Safety Employees must be aware of the responsibilities placed on them under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to ensure that the agreed safety procedures are carried out to maintain a safe environment.

### **Risk Management**

You have a responsibility for the identification of all risk which have a potential adverse effect on the Hospital's ability to maintain quality of care and the safety of patients, staff, and visitors, and for the taking of positive action to eliminate or reduce these.

### **Equal Opportunities**

As a member of staff at the King Edward VII's Hospital Sister Agnes you have a personal responsibility to ensure that you do not discriminate, harass, bully, or contribute to the discrimination, harassment or bullying of a colleague or colleagues, or condone discrimination, harassment or bullying by others. You also have a responsibility to ensure that all people that you have contact with during your employment, including patients, relatives, and staff, are treated equally in line with the Hospital's Equal Opportunities Policy.