

Please note this is an **EXAMPLE COMPETENCY FOR PRACTICE** and is to serve as an educational and organizational resource only. **Please always follow the policies and procedures for your institution and practice. Please always follow treating physician's orders.**

Nursing Competency Prostate Fiducials

Through return demonstration in the clinical setting and evidence of daily work, the brachytherapy nurse in orientation will use this tool to obtain evaluation of the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to independently function as a registered nurse in the oncology (brachytherapy) service. The evaluator will validate competencies based on direct observation with attention to the orientee's consistency in demonstrating the competency.

Employee Name:

Date:

Assessment	COMMENTS
<p>Assessment</p> <p>Demonstrates competence in conducting a comprehensive physiological and psychosocial assessment of the patient. Accurately identifies special considerations relevant to the patient's condition and treatment plan, including mobility limitations, anxiety, comorbidities, or cultural needs that may affect care delivery or procedural preparation.</p> <p>Nursing Diagnosis</p> <p>Uses assessment findings to determine actual and potential nursing diagnoses. Identifies patient safety risks and clinical concerns specific to fiducial seed placement. Emphasizes the importance of patient education, particularly regarding pre-procedural instructions such as bowel prep, medication holds, and transportation needs. Prioritizes nursing diagnoses that impact procedural readiness and post-procedural recovery.</p> <p>Patient Outcome Identification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establishes patient-centered, measurable goals aligned with nursing diagnoses. ● Emphasizes safety and comfort as key outcome domains for patients undergoing fiducial placement. 	

Please note this is an **EXAMPLE COMPETENCY FOR PRACTICE** and is to serve as an educational and organizational resource only. **Please always follow the policies and procedures for your institution and practice. Please always follow treating physician's orders.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognizes the goal of achieving procedural readiness and minimizing risk of complications such as infection or seed displacement. <p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develops a tailored plan of care to support achievement of desired outcomes.• Incorporates physician orders, institutional policies, and individualized patient needs.• Coordinates multidisciplinary tasks, such as medication management and follow-up scheduling, to ensure procedural success. <p>Intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Executes nursing interventions in accordance with established protocols, evidence-based standards, and scope of practice.• Adjusts care in real time based on patient response, procedural delays, or unexpected clinical findings.• Communicates effectively with providers to advocate for patient needs and preferences. <p>Nursing Responsibilities During Prostate Fiducial Seed Insertion</p> <p>Pre-Procedure Education and Preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explains bowel preparation instructions clearly and ensures patient understanding.• Provides pre-procedural education either in person or by phone, using plain language and teach-back methods when appropriate.• Distributes written materials that outline the procedure, expectations, and aftercare.• Coordinates anticoagulation management per prescribing MD's instruction• Collaborates with the provider team to ensure an anxiolytic plan is in place when needed and verifies patient transportation arrangements for post-procedure discharge.	
--	--

Please note this is an **EXAMPLE COMPETENCY FOR PRACTICE** and is to serve as an educational and organizational resource only. **Please always follow the policies and procedures for your institution and practice. Please always follow treating physician's orders.**

Note: Document all education and verbal confirmations in the EMR to ensure medicolegal compliance.

Procedure Room Setup

- Prepares all necessary equipment, verifying functionality and proper placement (e.g., ultrasound probe, lithotomy chair, sterile trays).
- Gathers and arranges all supplies required for the procedure, including fiducial seeds, syringes, sterile gloves, drapes, and biopsy guides.
- Establishes a sterile field and sets up a clean field for non-sterile components.
- Draws up and labels all medications, including lidocaine or other anesthetics, per institutional safety standards.

Extra Note: Always verify expiration dates and allergy status prior to medication preparation.

Intra-Procedure Nursing Support

- Confirms informed consent is signed and present in the chart.
- Performs and documents a pre-procedural assessment and obtains baseline vital signs.
- Administers prescribed medications (e.g., oral antibiotics, anxiolytics) and monitors for adverse reactions.
- Positions the patient safely in lithotomy, ensuring proper padding and privacy.
- Provides procedural assistance as requested, maintaining sterility and anticipating provider needs.

Please note this is an EXAMPLE COMPETENCY FOR PRACTICE and is to serve as an educational and organizational resource only. **Please always follow the policies and procedures for your institution and practice. Please always follow treating physician's orders.**

<p>Post-Procedure Discharge Teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviews potential post-procedure complications with the patient (e.g., hematuria, rectal discomfort, urinary retention or frequency, signs of infection).• Gives the patient an after-hours contact number for urgent concerns.• Ensures that any patient who received anxiolytics is accompanied by a responsible adult upon discharge (patient is not allowed to drive for 24 hours)• Reviews follow-up instructions, including the next steps in the treatment plan (e.g., CT simulation, EBRT schedule), and confirms orders are visible in the EMR. <p>Extra Note: Reinforce that fiducial seeds are permanent and do not need to be removed. Address any misconceptions or fears.</p> <p>Room Turnover and Cleanup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleans and disinfects all used equipment per infection control guidelines.• Disposes of sharps and biohazard waste appropriately.• Returns reusable supplies and devices to their designated storage areas.• Documents any equipment malfunctions or missing supplies for quality assurance	
--	--

Employee Signature _____

Date: _____

Evaluator Signature _____

Date: _____