

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: Brachytherapy Pre-operative Nursing Assessment

RADIATION ONCOLOGY SERVICE SUPPLEMENT

Pelvic HDR Brachytherapy (Gynecology and Prostate)

Through return demonstration in the clinical setting and evidence of daily work, the perioperative 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 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	Comment
<p>Demonstrates the ability to perform a perioperative physiological, psychosocial assessment when checking in patients.</p> <p>Nursing Diagnosis</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to identify nursing diagnoses based on assessment data.</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to identify patient goals based on nursing diagnoses.</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to develop an individualized plan of care to achieve patient goals and outcomes.</p> <p>Implements nursing actions based on plan of care, policies and procedures, and professional nursing standards.</p>	

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**Pre-Operative Brachytherapy Nursing
Competency Checklist**

Procedure Type Observed: Prostate GYN
Intracavitary GYN Interstitial Rectal
Setting: Pre-Op

**1. Patient Identification & Procedure
Verification**

- Verifies patient using two identifiers
- Confirms correct procedure and applicator or implant type
- Confirms laterality/site when applicable (such as in the setting of focal treatment)

2. Consent & Orders Review

- Verifies procedure consent is signed and accurate
- Verifies anesthesia consent is completed
- Confirms blood consent if indicated
- Reviews and validates pre-op provider orders

3. Vital Signs & Baseline Assessment

- Obtains and documents baseline vital signs
- Assesses and documents baseline pain score
- Identifies abnormal findings and escalates appropriately

4. Laboratory Review & Interpretation

- Reviews required labs within appropriate timeframe
- Identifies critical values (CBC, coags, CMP/BMP)
- Escalates abnormal labs to PA/MD per protocol

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5. Medication Reconciliation

- Completes accurate medication reconciliation including last dose taken of prescription medication
- Verifies anticoagulant/antiplatelet hold compliance
- Reviews diabetes and cardiac medications per anesthesia guidelines
- Reviews that GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonists have been held appropriately per anesthesia guidelines
- Verifies and documents allergies

6. Diet and Bowel Prep

- Confirms NPO status and last oral intake time for both solids and liquids
- Verifies bowel prep completion (if ordered)

7. Focused Physical Assessment

- Performs focused cardiac and respiratory assessment
- Assesses abdomen/perineal area as appropriate (if skin integrity issues arise)
- Performs neuro baseline if neuraxial anesthesia planned
- Assesses skin integrity and pressure points

8. IV Access & Equipment Readiness

- Establishes and assesses IV patency
- Initiates IV fluids per order
- Confirms availability of procedure-specific supplies with the team

9. Anesthesia & Safety Coordination

- Confirms anesthesia clearance and plan
- Identifies prior anesthesia complications
- Ensures antibiotics are administered if ordered
- Verifies readiness for procedural time-out

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<p>10. Patient Education & Psychosocial Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explains procedure and treatment timeline clearly<input type="checkbox"/> Assesses anxiety and emotional readiness<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinates interpreter/support person as needed <p>11. Communication & Escalation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Communicates concerns to APPs/MD/anesthesia promptly<input type="checkbox"/> Documents findings accurately and completely<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates appropriate multidisciplinary handoff	
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Employee Name (Printed): .

Date:

Employee Signature: .

Date:

Supervisor or Trainer Signature:

Date: