

SPECIALTY COURSE LIBRARY

STANDARDIZED EDUCATION FOR SPECIALTY SURGERIES

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SAFE SURGERY TOGETHER

IMPROVE SURGICAL OUTCOMES WITH SPECIALTY EDUCATION

In the OR, competence must keep pace with the growing specificity of the work.

The **AORN Specialty Course Library** offers specialty-focused education designed to extend that competence: case by case, specialty by specialty.

This library is part of a broader continuum of workforce development. Courses are designed to work alongside AORN's full suite of education and clinical support tools with the capability to stand on its own to meet targeted specialty needs.

The Specialty Course Library prepares teams for the distinct demands of each specialty, strengthening coordination, reducing variation, and supporting safer, more reliable patient care.

To learn more, contact periopsolutions@aorn.org

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CORE CLINICAL COURSES

PERIOP 202

Cardiac Catheterization and EP Lab Procedures

Course includes overview of:

- Indications for adult cardiac catheterization and electrophysiology (EP) procedures
- Interventional and outpatient cardiac catheterization and EP procedures
- Intra-procedural patient positioning considerations
- Equipment and room setup requirements
- Interdisciplinary collaboration throughout the patient care continuum

Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG)

Course includes overview of:

- Anatomy of the heart and vascular system
- Common indications and positioning considerations for an adult undergoing CABG surgery
- Potential CABG complications and responses
- Intraoperative positioning considerations required for adult CABG surgery
- Equipment needed to prepare the OR
- Collaborative partnerships along the patient's continuum of care

ECMO Intraoperative Care

Course includes overview of:

- Historical development of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)
- Cardiopulmonary and thoracic cavity anatomy and physiology
- Roles and responsibilities before, during and after ECMO cannulation procedure
- Essential equipment, medications, and instruments
- Patient care considerations
- Complications and risk factors

Gastrointestinal Procedures

Course includes overview of:

- Common GI tract diseases and disorders
- GI interventions for diseases and disorders of the GI tract
- Essential equipment, supplies, and instruments used in GI procedures
- Pre- and post-procedural patient care considerations
- Evidence-based practice interventions for upper and lower GI diseases and procedure complications

Hand and Wrist Procedures

Course includes overview of:

- Hand and wrist anatomy
- Common indications for adult procedures
- Types of hand and wrist procedures
- Care of the patient before, during, and after procedure
- Basic equipment and workflow

Lower Extremity Amputations

Course includes overview of:

- Indications for lower extremity amputation procedures
- Types of lower extremity amputations
- Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative perioperative care
- Safe perioperative practices and patient positioning considerations
- Risk factors, complications, and patient safety priorities

Total Hip Arthroplasty

Course includes overview of:

- Anatomy and physiology of the hip
- Surgical approaches and associated considerations
- Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care
- Complications and risk factors
- Clinical pathways and ERAS protocols

Total Knee Arthroplasty

Course includes overview of:

- Anatomy and physiology of the knee
- Surgical approaches and associated considerations
- Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care
- Complications and risk factors
- Clinical pathways and ERAS protocols

Total Shoulder Arthroplasty

Course includes overview of:

- Anatomy and physiology of the shoulder
- Surgical approaches and associated considerations
- Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care
- Complications and risk factors
- Clinical pathways and ERAS protocols

Ophthalmic Procedures

Course includes overview of:

- Ocular anatomy and common indications for ophthalmic procedures
- Types of ophthalmic procedures performed in surgical settings
- Safe perioperative practices before, during, and after ophthalmic surgery
- Basic equipment, medications, instruments, and procedural workflow

Orthopedic Trauma

Course includes overview of:

- Bone anatomy and eight categories of fractures
- Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care
- Workflow of orthopedic trauma procedures and tools used to repair fractures
- Preparation of the OR
- Orthopedic surgical emergencies
- Surgical options, variations, and complications

Orthopedic Spine Procedures

Course includes overview of:

- Spine anatomy and conditions of the spine
- Indications for spine procedures
- Preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care
- Anterior/posterior cervical spine surgery and anterior/posterior lumbar spine surgery

Robotic Surgery Program

Course includes overview of:

- Key features of image-guided navigation systems and surgical robots
- Team building and training of the surgical team
- Role of scheduling process
- Sterile processing and materials management departments contributions
- Evaluation methods and continuous improvement

Urgent Abdominal General Surgery

Course includes overview of:

- Assessment of patients with abdominal trauma
- Types of urgent abdominal general surgery procedures
- Potential risks and complications
- Safe perioperative practices for caring for a patient scheduled for urgent abdominal general surgery
- Technical components of perioperative nursing, such as supplies, instruments, equipment, medications, room setup, patient position, and procedural workflows

ASC ACADEMY COURSES

A Guide to Emergency Drills

Course includes overview of:

- Identify potential risks and emergencies
- Team member roles and responsibilities
- Conduct and evaluate emergency drills
- Post-evaluation processes, communication, and coordination

A Guide to Quality & Risk Management

Course includes overview of:

- Customize tools to build and maintain a quality and risk management program
- Assess compliance and align with CMS, AAAHC, and Joint Commission standards
- Set up processes for required reporting (Governing Body, ASCQRS, NHSN)
- Use templates and checklists to plan, implement, or update your program
- A Guide to Credentialing, Privileging & Peer Review
- Course includes overview of:
 - Application, verification, and monitoring of credentialing and privileging process
 - Peer review process, evaluation methods, and proper documentation
 - Common mistakes and deficiencies and outline mitigation strategies

Infection Prevention

Course includes overview of:

- Regulatory and accreditation requirements in an ASC
- Effective hand hygiene program components
- Administration of injectable medication safe practices
- Sterilization and high-level disinfection processes
- Environmental infection control and practices

Prep for Infection Prevention Certification

Course includes overview of:

- Assess infection prevention knowledge in ambulatory setting
- Review evidence-based principles and practices
- Enhance critical thinking skills
- Personal study plan and test taking strategies to maximize performance

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CROSS-FUNCTIONAL COURSES

Foundations for Sterile Processing

Topics include:

- The history of sterile processing
- The Sterile Processing Department (SPD) team member's role and responsibilities
- The design of the SPD space
- Interventions for instruments used on high-risk prion diseased tissue
- Detailed steps to cleaning and disinfection
- Spaulding classification
- Additional details around steam sterilization, low-temperature sterilization, and instrument storage conditions

Medical Laser Safety Essentials

Course includes overview of:

- Laser biophysics resulting in tissue interactions
- Laser safety standards developed by three regulatory or standard setting bodies
- Essential precautions for patient and personnel safety
- Responsibilities and role of standard operation procedures
- Upper airway laser procedure precautions
- Record maintenance

Safe Administration of Moderate Sedation

Course includes overview of:

- Patient Selection and Pre-Procedural Guidelines
- Patient Physiologic Monitoring and Airway Considerations
- Medication Administration
- Emergency Preparedness and Safety for Moderate Sedation
- Post-Procedure Care and Discharge

Pediatric Courses

Care of the Pediatric Surgical Patient

Course includes overview of:

- Key components of perioperative pediatric assessment and care plan
- Define age-specific elements of physiological and psychosocial assessment
- Age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate interventions
- Age-appropriate and family-centered interventions

Care of the Sensory-Sensitive Pediatric Patient

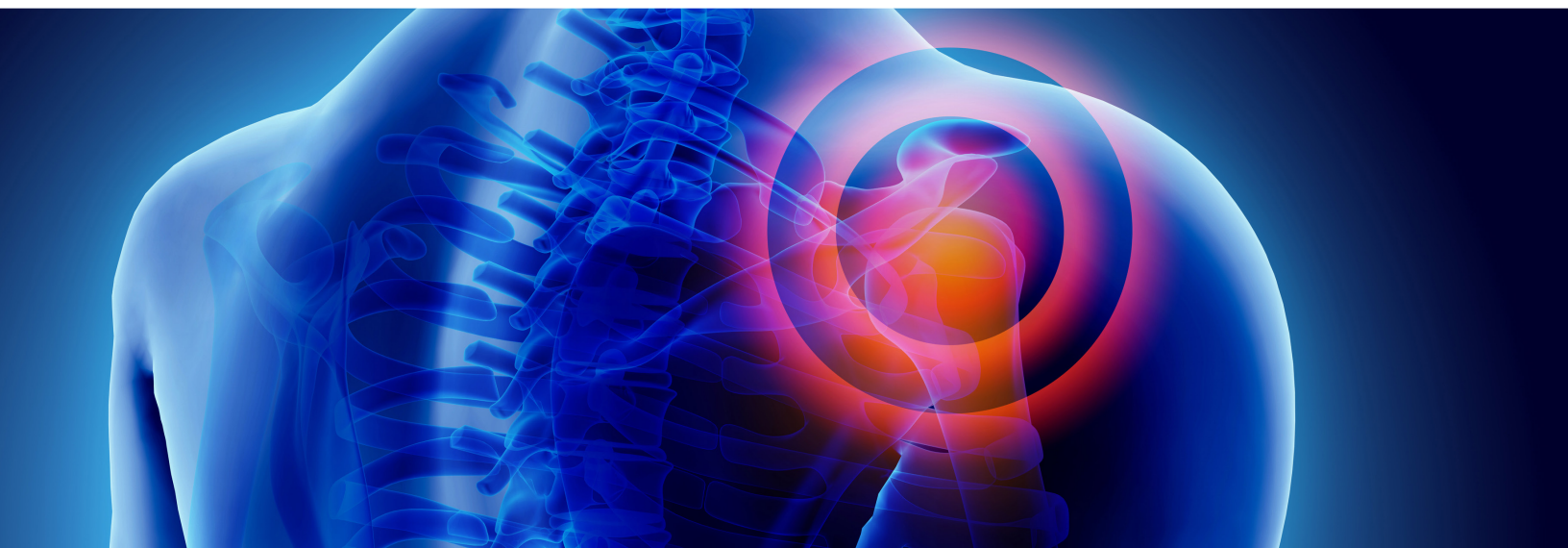
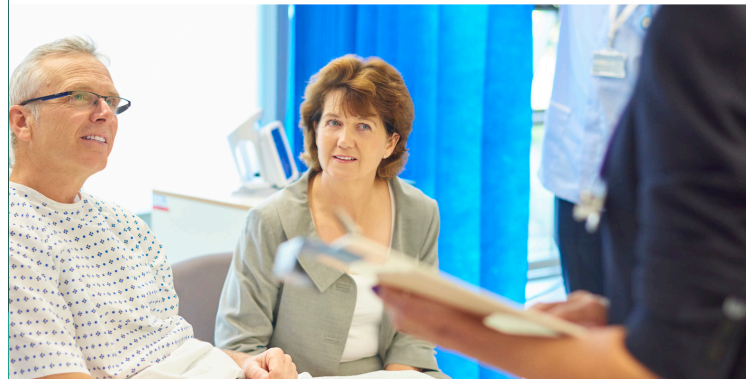
Course includes overview of:

- Common sensory challenges present in neurodivergent children
- Communication strategies to quell anxiety and emotional strain
- Behavioral characteristics, processes and workflow
- Strategies for sensory overload minimization, effective communication, emotional regulation

STRENGTHEN PRACTICE ACROSS CLINICAL SPECIALTIES

The AORN Specialty Course Library offers a practical way to strengthen practice across specialties, supporting teams as they deepen expertise and deliver care with greater consistency.

Explore the courses, identify where growth is needed, and take the next step in advancing your team's practice.



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