



SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY - OCCUPATIONAL RISKS

Occupational Risks in Surgical Technology

Surgical Technologists work directly with providers and patients, with the goal of providing health care and ensuring patient safety. They can perform both administrative and clinical services, filling several roles in a variety of healthcare environments.

As with any healthcare position, there are certain occupational risks or hazards while performing one's duties, including the following:

- Exposure to infectious diseases
- Sharps injuries
- Blood-borne pathogens and biological hazards
- Chemical and drug exposure
- Ergonomic hazards from lifting, sitting, and repetitive tasks
- Latex allergies
- Stress

There are protections set up by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and those protections are particularly important within a healthcare environment. OSHA has a series of standards that protect the safety of healthcare workers and patients. All of these OSHA precautions and techniques are covered in the ST program.