

Flight Nurse Job Description:

SUMMARY: Provides high quality nursing care including assessment, triage, and treatment utilizing standards and guidelines established by Air Methods Medical Director(s); assesses the nature and extent of illness or injury to establish and prioritize the care needed for safe transport of the critical patient to the appropriate facility; is qualified to provide care for patients across the life span in his/her assigned clinical area; responsible for carrying out the mission and goals of Air Methods assuring that safety remains the highest priority throughout the transport continuum.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provides nursing care from the initial contact until patient care is relinquished to the accepting medical facility; maintains thorough patient care documentation.
- Practices nursing within his/her scope of practice as defined by the states regulating each base and Air Methods.
 - o Maintains competency in knowledge and psychomotor skills by participating in ongoing laboratory and clinical experiences. Communicates educational needs to the Medical Base Supervisor and Medical Education Coordinator.
 - o Maintains documentation of required licensure, certifications, continuing education, aviation and safety training, OSHA and HIPAA training, clinical rotations, and advanced procedures.
 - o Attends continuing education programs pertinent to his/her area of practice.
- Knowledgeable in use and routine maintenance of all equipment and supplies used by Air Methods. Responsible for reporting medical equipment failures and taking initial steps to insure repair of equipment as directed. Maintains adequate supplies onboard aircraft to deliver patient care. Keeps aircraft clean and orderly to insure rapid response to all transport requests.
- Maintains positive interpersonal relationships with colleagues, EMS representatives, hospitals and the public.
 - o Participates in patient and referring institution follow-up.
 - o Participates in planned outreach marketing and education activities.
- Functions as a medical flight member.
 - o Attends pre-mission briefings and mission debriefings and completes necessary documentation.
 - o Assists in pre-mission liftoff checklist and assists pilot as requested, i.e., radio, navigational, and visual observation activities. Complies with safety standards to assure safety of self, medical personnel, patient, and equipment.
 - o Serves as a flight resource to neonatal/pediatric personnel when transporting specialty patients by helicopter.
- Performs advanced skills and procedures as approved by Air Methods CBS Medical Director(s).
- Serves as a role model, educator and clinical resource.
 - o Acts as a preceptor and/or participates in orientation of new employees and students as assigned.
 - o Acts as a liaison and communicates program goals and objectives.
 - o Participates in continuing and outreach education programs.
 - o Conducts aircraft safety briefings as needed.
 - o Maintains awareness of current issues related to pre-hospital care through participation in professional activities, i.e., national, state legislative-elected or appointed.

- Participates regularly in Air Methods CBS activities, projects and committees.
 - o Attends and participates in meetings according to established departmental guidelines.
 - o Develops standards and guidelines related to the flight program as assigned.
 - o Participates in departmental quality improvement activities as assigned.
 - o Undertakes and maintains projects as assigned (to include research and publishing opportunities).
- Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: The qualifications listed are representative of those required to successfully fulfill job responsibilities, but may include program-specific qualifications not listed. Contact local program representative for additional requirements.

Required:

Education:

Graduate of an accredited School of Nursing

Experience:

Minimum three years critical care/emergency nursing experience

Licenses & Certificates:

Current RN license(s) for states of practice

Florida Paramedic certification/licensure as required by state regs

Current certifications in BLS/CPR; ACLS; TNCC/BTLS/PHTLS/TNATC; and PALS or equivalent

Specialty certification (CFRN, CCRN, or CEN) required within three years of hire

NRP if program provides high-risk OB and/or neonatal transports within 6 months of hire

Preferred:

Education:

BSN or Bachelors degree in health-related field

Experience:

Pre-hospital experience

Flight experience

License & Certificates:

COMPETENCIES: Competency in advanced practice skills as defined by Medical Director(s) and Medical Standards.

SKILLS: Skills as required to practice nursing as defined by assigned state scope of practice and advanced practice skills as defined by Medical Director(s) and Medical Standards.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: Physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

While performing duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to perform medical procedures and assessments, reach with hands and arms, and speak and hear. The employee is frequently required to sit. The employee is required

to stand, walk, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl, and smell. The employee is required to maintain adequate physical conditioning to be able to perform job duties. Job duties are often performed at high stress levels requiring employee to function effectively and independently while maintaining good working relationships with partners, patients, and customers.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 80 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

While performing duties of this job, the employee frequently works near moving mechanical parts and in outside weather conditions; and is frequently exposed to blood-borne pathogens or airborne particles, fumes and gases, electrical and chemical hazards, and vibrations/turbulence. Pre-employment and annual physicals will be provided to include appropriate immunizations as required, back screening, and a PPD skin test for tuberculosis.

The noise level in the work environment is usually loud, requiring hearing protection while in-flight, and at a moderate level when in the hospital environment. Pre-employment and annual audiograms will be provided to monitor for hearing loss. Noise attenuation devices will be provided to all employees, but it is the employee's responsibility to utilize these devices to prevent hearing loss.

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