

# **Technical Skills**

Are you empathetic person? Are you good at solving problems and thinking critically? Can you work as part of a healthcare team? Do you have the ability to work under pressure? Do you like help people when they are sick? The essence of these careers is provide care and a broad range of specific medical services, usually under the supervision of other registered professional, like for example a physician.

Activities may include conducting patient interviews, histories and physical examinations; diagnosing and treating illnesses, diagnosing and managing disorders, performing selected diagnostic and therapeutic interventions or procedures; and counseling patients on preventive health care.

\*\*Scroll down for job descriptions in this area



## **Physician Assistant**

## Generic job description:

- Conduct physical examinations and comprehensive assessments
- Recommend and explain appropriate diagnostic tests and treatments. Instruct and educate patients, and counsel patients on preventive care
- Consult with and refer to other health care professionals as needed
- Maintain accurate records of all aspects of patient care
- Deal regularly with physicians, other health care providers, and community organizations to facilitate patient care management
- Work collaboratively with all health care providers, patients and families, to ensure continuity of care is maintained.
- Encourage and ensure good working relationships with all members of the team.
- Physician assistants work in a variety of settings such as community health care centres, Indigenous communities, nursing homes, educational and correctional institutions.

#### Skills:

- Knowledge of professional and legal components of the Physician Assistant practice
- Critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills
- Strong clinical and technical competencies including but not limited to physical assessment, diagnostic reasoning, and management of disease
- Adaptable, empathetic, and able to care for diverse populations with various health, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Able to advocate for patient's health
- · Courteous, professional, good inter-office and patient communication skills
- Strong teaching, problem solving and leadership skills. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment

## **Qualifications:**

Graduate from an accredited Physician Assistant program is often required



 Active registration as a Physician Assistant with the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants and with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta

## **Respiratory Therapist**

## Generic job description:

- Assess patients (clients, residents)
- Develop and implement respiratory therapy care plans and monitor their progress
- Responsible for various diagnostic and therapeutic equipment and interventions
- Collaborate with various clinical teams and groups to enhance clinical outcomes
- Provide training and assist health care providers in the use and care of respiratory equipment
- Educate patients and their families regarding diseases, medications, equipment and treatments

## Skills:

- Excellent interpersonal and problem-solving skills
- Have a positive attitude and highly motivated
- Able to work in a team and independently
- Adaptable, empathetic, and able to care for diverse populations with various health, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Able to advocate for patient's health
- Courteous, professional, strong communication and organizational skills
- Adaptable to new procedures and information
- Case management and documentation

## **Qualifications:**

 Active or eligible registration with the College and Association of Respiratory Therapists of Alberta (CARTA)



- The successful candidate must be a graduate from a recognized School of Respiratory
  Therapy and eligible to write, or have passed, the National Respiratory Certification
  Exam as administered by the Canadian Board for Respiratory Care (CBRC)
- Current basic life support (BLS-HCP) certification is required

## Medical Laboratory Technician or Assistant / Pathologist Assistant / Phlebotomist

# Generic job description: Medical Laboratory Technician / Assistant

- Collect blood, tissue and other samples from patients
- Log patient samples and prepare them for testing
- Set up medical laboratory equipment.
- Conduct routine laboratory tests and sample analyses
- Perform quality assurance of testing techniques
- Clean and maintain medical laboratory and medical laboratory equipment.

## **Generic job description: Pathologist Assistant**

- Obtain patients' medical records and arrange for radiographic examinations
- Assist with or perform autopsies and surgical specimen examinations
- Dissect, examine, weigh and photograph organs and specimens, collect tissue samples for chemical analysis and record findings
- Discard specimens according to established safety procedures
- Clean and maintain instruments, equipment and supplies
- Prepare bodies for release to funeral homes following completion of autopsies
- May supervise and train junior resident pathologists and morgue attendants

#### Skills:

· Analysis and documentation of each patient



- Knowledge of chemistry techniques and health regulations
- Thoroughness and attention to details. Strong organizational skills
- Ability to learn and follow instructions, standards and procedures

## **Qualifications:**

- Certification by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science may be required for medical laboratory technicians/assistants
- Combined laboratory and X-ray technicians require completion of a combined laboratory X-ray technology program
- Pathologist assistants require some post-secondary courses or a university degree in life sciences and specialized on-the-job training