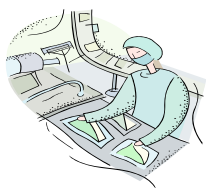


What is an RNFA?

An RNFA is a **Registered Nurse First Assistant**- a Perioperative RN with the added education, skills and training that qualifies them to be your assistant during surgery.

Why do I need an RNFA?

An RNFA can save you time, money and resources. Being available to assist at surgery is only a small part of the RNFA role. An RNFA establishes and maintains contact with your patients throughout their operative experience – pre-op, intra-op and post-operatively.



PREOPERATIVELY

RNFA's understand the surgical process, and by assessing your patient at all

stages of the experience and in consultation with you, the RNFA is able to personalize the plan of care and communicate information among all team members. At the office visit, the RNFA can complete a

comprehensive history and perform physical exams. In consultation with you, the RNFA can assist with patient education, health care teaching and preparation for surgery –including surgery, recovery, discharge planning and wound care.

INTRAOPERATIVELY

With their comprehensive knowledge of the operating room and its



environment, your preferences, and the patient's needs, the RNFA often prevents unnecessary duplication of tests, processes and opening of equipment and supplies, thus keeping your case costs down.

POSTOPERATIVELY

RNFA's can do so much more than assist at surgery. Depending on your patient's recovery needs, the RNFA can remove sutures, clips and drains, perform dressing changes, assess the need for pain medication, and provide

physical and psychosocial support at every step.

What makes RNFA's different from other surgical assistants?

In Canada, the RNFA will have

- A minimum of 5 years perioperative nursing experience
- ACLS/BCLS
- Certification with the Canadian Nursing Association – Perioperative specialty (CPNC)
- Graduated an intensive education program including hands-on labs and 175 hours of hospital clinical internship with a surgeon mentor.

How will using an RNFA save me any time or money?

An RNFA's day starts early. They are there before the procedure begins and they follow the patient to PACU. This allows you the time to write orders, dictate notes, meet with the family or see a consult if needed; all while the patient is being induced, positioned, prepped and draped for surgery, or being transferred to PACU. An RNFA on staff means there is no added cost to the surgical department, and saving time saves money and resources.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE
ONLINE AT THESE WEBSITES:

www.ornac.ca

www.rnfa-ontario.ca

www.cno.org

www.aorn.org

www.aorn.org/groups/pdf/brochure.pdf

www.rnao.org

www.cna-nurses.ca

www.ona.org

REGISTERED NURSE FIRST ASSISTANT



Inquiries and Comments are welcome!

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Why Choose an RNFA
To Be Your First Assistant?