

CLINICAL NEUROPHYSIOLOGY TECHNICIAN III

This is skilled and managerial work in directing the daily activities of an Electroencephalograph Laboratory in the scheduling, preparing, recording, and basic interpretation of electroencephalograms, echoencephalograms, and electrocardiograms. The EEG's, Echos, and EKG's are recorded for physicians to rule out, localize, and report abnormal findings of the heart and brain. These positions are located within the Department of Human Resources. Employees are responsible for managing the daily workflow and workload operations of their laboratories. Work requires the employees to schedule patients, maintain equipment and supplies, plan for short/long term activities of the laboratory, participate in the budget process, and supervising other technical and clerical support. Employees may also teach other clinicians and students in EEG procedures. Work may include other duties as determined by management. Work is supervised by an Electroencephalographer.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity - Employees spend the majority of the time in independently performing EEG tests, and performing and interpreting Echos. The steps of the EEG tests are similar to the EEG Technician I. In recording an Echo, a sound probe is moved until the brain appears on the oscilloscope; the probe is moved in a routine pattern and pictures are taken with a Polaroid camera which best visualize the sides of the brain; employees measure distances from the side of the brain to the midline to determine if there has been a shift in the brain indicating brain tumors or subdural hematomas. Work includes calibration and maintenance of equipment, scheduling tests, keeping and maintaining records, running EEG's, teaching of EEG students, and supervision of other technicians.

Guidelines - Work procedures are routine and understood. Employees are usually trained in formal programs and textbooks are available. Instructions are requested in unusual cases or when problems develop as abnormal records or equipment malfunctions.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Accountability - Employees have considerable opportunity to commit the organization since employees work so independently and interpret the EEG's and Echos. Unusual conditions and abnormalities must be reported immediately to a physician.

Consequence of Action - The misinterpretation of an Echo or EEG could cause unnecessary tests to be done on the patient. Inaccurate recordings could result in misleading information that could be detrimental to the patient's diagnosis and recovery.

Review - All EEG reports are reviewed by the Electroencephalographer after the employees have made all initial interpretation. Employees function independently in performing and interpreting echoencephalograms as well as the daily management of the laboratory.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Subject Matter - Employees explain the procedure to the patient or other unfamiliar medical staff and in some cases interprets the Echo for the physician.

Purpose - Communications are with patients to explain the procedure, and at times with 11 physicians, students, and other technicians who may not understand the procedure. Employees may have to persuade a patient to participate in the procedure.

IV. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Nature of Work - Employees work in the EEG laboratory, and at times, in clinic, medical units, emergency room, or operating room.

Nature and Potential of Personal Hazards - There is little danger to the employee, except possibly from working with electrical equipment or difficult patients.

V. JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities - Considerable knowledge of the procedures, techniques, and equipment involved in recording EEG's, Echos, and EKG's; considerable knowledge of echoencephalography interpretation; considerable knowledge of the repair, maintenance, and operation of EEG, Echo, and EKG equipment; general knowledge of neuroanatomy and physiology; skill in the operation of equipment; ability to record and process EEG, Echo, and EKG tracings and to interpret waves during the recording to alter the instrument for the best results; ability to interpret echoencephalograms; ability to teach other medical staff; ability to gain the confidence and cooperation of patients.

Minimum Education and Experience - High school or General Educational Development diploma and one year of experience in hospital related work (laboratory, clerical, or nursing care), six months to one year of training in an accredited program of electroencephalography, and 18 months of experience as an EEG Technician; or an equivalent combination of education and experience and experience.