

Tech in Surgery - Certified (NCCT) 2023 Detailed Test Plan - Comparison to Previous

Below is a quick comparison guide detailing the changes in the new Detailed Test Plan

Comparison	Previous	New
Total # scored test questions	175	150
Total # unscored pretest items	25	25
Total time	4 hours	4 hours
4-option multiple-choice items	95-98%	92%
Alternative items	2-5%	8%

Changes to Exam Content Categories:

Previous		New	
Perioperative Care and Preparation	68	Perioperative Care and Preparation	41
Preoperative Care and Preparation	55	Preoperative Care and Preparation	48
Intraoperative Care and Preparation	35	Intraoperative Care and Preparation	37
Postoperative Care and Preparation	17	End of Procedure Tasks and Postoperative Care	24

New Tasks:

- 1B4 Identify common sources of contamination/bioburden (e.g., liquid, rust, tissue).
- 1D5 Label specimens, medication, and solutions appropriately.
- 2C6 Recognize and respond to any breaks in sterile technique.
- 3B7 Organize and handle instruments based on surgical wound class (e.g., bowel, cancer, vaginal).
- 4A4 Verify procedure process and results (e.g., specimen, procedural changes, implants used).
- 4B3 Use appropriate liquid disinfectants.
- 4B5 Complete end-of-day cleaning of operating room and supply return.

Deleted Tasks:

- Determine liquid sterilants and disinfectants according to parameters and manufacturer's recommendations
- Utilize cost saving measures

Changes to Scrub Requirements:

Previous

Minimum of 50 scrubs in general surgeries, and a minimum of 20 scrubs in orthopedic surgeries, and a minimum of 55 scrubs in at least 2 of the following areas:

Gynecology

Genitourinary

Cardiovascular

Neurosurgery

Obstetrics

Thoracic

Peripheral Vascular

Ophthalmology

Otorhinolaryngology

Plastic/Reconstructive

Other (please specify)

Total (minimum of 125 total cases; at least 63 of which are 1st scrubs)

New

Minimum of 50 scrubs in general surgeries and a minimum of 75 scrubs in at least 3 of the following areas:

Gynecology

Genitourinary

Cardiovascular

Neurosurgery

Obstetrics

Thoracic

Peripheral Vascular

Ophthalmology

Otorhinolaryngology

Plastic/Reconstructive

Diagnostic Scopes (maximum of 15)

Orthopedic

Other (please specify)

Total (minimum of 125 total cases; at least 90 of which are 1st scrubs)
