

Elena Ponce

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SUMMARY

Nevada **Registered Nurse** with eight years of progressive perioperative and acute care experience, including more than six years supporting PreOp, PACU, and ambulatory surgical patients. Applies **nursing process**, focused assessment, aseptic technique, and sound clinical judgment across changing patient priorities. Provides safe preparation, recovery monitoring, patient and family teaching, and discharge coordination for multispecialty procedures. Works closely with surgeons, anesthesia personnel, clinical staff, caregivers, and families through clear handoffs and dependable follow through. Current **American Heart Association** BLS, ACLS, and PALS credentials support care across varied **perioperative populations**. Contributes to Performance Improvement reviews, peer coaching, workflow consistency, and patient centered service in fast paced surgical environments.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Registered Nurse, PreOp PostOp

April 2023 - Present

Red Rock Ambulatory Care

Las Vegas, NV

Leads preoperative preparation and postoperative recovery for multispecialty ambulatory patients. Coordinates assessments, orders, teaching, handoffs, discharge readiness, and Performance Improvement activities while coaching peers on reliable clinical practice.

- Coordinated multispecialty preparation and recovery, aligning assessments with orders and **discharge** readiness.
- Recognized airway, pain, hemodynamic, nausea, and consciousness changes during postoperative recovery.
- Applied **aseptic technique** during preparation and procedure related care, supporting infection prevention standards.
- Taught **recovery** milestones, medications, warning signs, and follow up instructions before discharge.
- Structured handoffs with **surgeons**, anesthesia staff, caregivers, and clinical teams across transitions.
- Reviewed perioperative flow and documentation through **Performance Improvement** work with peer coaching.

Registered Nurse, PACU

January 2021 - March 2023

Desert Springs Surgical Pavilion

Henderson, NV

Managed Phase I and Phase II recovery for outpatient **surgical patients**. Balanced focused assessment, complication recognition, family communication, documentation, teaching, and room turnover within a fast paced postoperative setting.

- Managed Phase I and Phase II recovery using focused assessment for safe discharge progression.
- Recognized postoperative complications through serial assessment and notified anesthesia providers rapidly.
- Balanced simultaneous recovery needs while preserving comfort, documentation, and family **communication**.
- Reinforced medication, wound care, activity, diet, and follow up instructions for families.
- Maintained aseptic recovery spaces and supplies, supporting efficient turnover and clinical safety.
- Strengthened team handoffs across nursing, anesthesia, surgeons, and support staff.

Registered Nurse, PreOp

August 2019 - December 2020

Mojave Day Surgery

North Las Vegas, NV

Prepared ambulatory surgical patients through history review, focused assessment, medication reconciliation, testing verification, IV access, education, and discharge planning. Coordinated concerns with surgeons and anesthesia professionals before procedures.

- Prepared ambulatory patients through history review, assessment, reconciliation, testing, and readiness verification.
- Identified incomplete preparation and new concerns before surgery, coordinating timely clinical resolution.
- Established IV access and completed preoperative interventions with **aseptic technique** and patient comfort.
- Explained procedure expectations, recovery milestones, and discharge plans to patients and families.
- Organized competing case starts through accurate documentation and structured clinical communication.
- Built physician and staff trust through reliable follow through and patient centered service.

Registered Nurse, Medical Surgical

June 2018 - July 2019

Valley Crest Medical Center

Las Vegas, NV

Provided adult medical surgical nursing care for patients with changing priorities. Built strong foundations in assessment, medication safety, infection prevention, **patient education**, documentation, discharge coordination, and clinical problem solving.

- Managed adult medical **surgical patients** with changing priorities through **nursing process** assessment.
- Recognized deterioration through reassessment and communicated changes promptly to providers.
- Administered medications safely while teaching purpose, precautions, and discharge instructions.
- Applied aseptic practices during wound care, line care, and bedside procedures.
- Coordinated discharge needs with patients, families, and interdisciplinary staff.
- Developed organization, documentation, **customer service**, and **clinical problem solving** in acute care.

PROJECTS

Perioperative Flow Review 2025

A recurring documentation issue surfaced during daily case flow. Reviewed preparation, recovery, and discharge workflows with peers, helping identify practical consistency opportunities for Performance Improvement discussions.

Peer Preceptor Program 2024

New staff often needed a clear starting point in busy surgical areas. Supported supervised peer learning through practical coaching on handoffs, assessment, teaching, and safe recovery routines.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Perioperative Peer Preceptor, Red Rock Ambulatory Care, 2024 to Present
- Performance Improvement Workgroup Contributor, Red Rock Ambulatory Care, 2025 to Present

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Nursing

Nevada State University GPA: 0

2018

Henderson, NV

Coursework: Nursing process, medical surgical nursing, pharmacology, health assessment, community health

CERTIFICATIONS

- Registered Nurse License, Nevada 2026
- Basic Life Support, American Heart Association 2026
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support, American Heart Association 2026
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support, American Heart Association 2026

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Perioperative Nursing: PreOp Nursing, PostOp Nursing, PACU
- Surgical Care: Ambulatory Surgery, Surgical Procedures, Surgical Patient Management
- Clinical Assessment: Patient Assessment, Clinical Judgment, Nursing Process
- Infection Prevention: Aseptic Technique, Infection Prevention, Sterile Practice
- Patient Education: Patient Teaching, Family Education, Discharge Instructions
- Cardiac Life Support: BLS, ACLS, PALS
- Recovery Monitoring: Phase I Recovery, Phase II Recovery, Postoperative Assessment
- Care Coordination: Interdisciplinary Handoffs, Discharge Planning, Caregiver Coordination
- Clinical Operations: Patient Flow, Case Preparation, Recovery Turnover
- Quality Practice: Performance Improvement, Clinical Standards, Documentation Review

SKILLS

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| • PreOp Nursing | • Nursing Process | • Discharge Planning | • Multispecialty Surgery |
| • PostOp Nursing | • Patient Assessment | • Aseptic Technique | • Team Handoffs |
| • PACU | • Clinical Judgment | • Surgical Patient Management | • Customer Service |
| • Ambulatory Surgery | • Patient Education | • Performance Improvement | |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Ambulatory surgery nursing practice and perioperative patient care
- Patient and family education across surgical preparation and recovery

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST