
EKG Technician

Job Description

Angelmedic CPR Training Center



What Does a EKG Tech Do?

An Electrocardiograph (EKG) Technician is a healthcare professional trained to perform diagnostic tests that assess the heart's electrical activity. They work in hospitals, clinics, physician's offices, and diagnostic laboratories, assisting doctors in detecting heart conditions like arrhythmias, heart attacks, and other cardiovascular diseases.

Duties & Responsibilities

- Perform EKG Tests – Attach electrodes to the patient's chest, arms, and legs, operate the EKG machine, and record heart activity.
- Monitor Patients – Observe and reassure patients during testing, ensuring they are comfortable and at ease.
- Analyze Results – Recognize irregularities in heart rhythms and report findings to physicians or cardiologists.
- Assist with Stress Testing – Help conduct exercise stress tests, monitoring patients while they walk on a treadmill or use a stationary bike.
- Apply Holter Monitors – Fit patients with Holter or event monitors for continuous heart activity recording over 24-48 hours or longer.
- Maintain Equipment – Clean, calibrate, and troubleshoot EKG machines to ensure accuracy.
- Document Test Results – Maintain accurate patient records, input data into electronic medical records (EMR), and ensure confidentiality.
- Educate Patients – Explain procedures and answer questions about heart monitoring.
- Follow Safety Protocols – Adhere to infection control, patient privacy (HIPAA), and safety regulations.

Qualifications & Skills

Education Requirements

- High School Diploma or GED – Required as a basic qualification.

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- Completion of an EKG Technician Program – Offered at community colleges, vocational schools, or online training programs.

Certification & Licensing Requirements

While licensing is not required in most states, many employers prefer or require certification, such as:

- Certified EKG Technician (CET) – Offered by the National Healthcareer Association (NHA)
- Certified Cardiographic Technician (CCT) – Offered by Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI)
- Electrocardiography (ECG) Technician Certification – Offered by various healthcare organizations

Some states or employers may require Basic Life Support (BLS) or CPR certification.

Experience Requirements

- Entry-Level Positions – No prior experience needed; on-the-job training may be available.
- Preferred Experience – 6 months to 1 year in a healthcare setting (e.g., medical assistant, nursing aide).
- Clinical Training – Most programs include hands-on practice in hospitals or labs.

Key Skills

- Attention to Detail – Ensure proper lead placement and accurate test results.
- Technical Proficiency – Operate and troubleshoot EKG machines.
- Patient Care & Communication – Comfort and educate patients during procedures.
- Analytical Thinking – Identify abnormal heart rhythms.

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- Time Management – Efficiently perform multiple tests in a clinical setting.
 - Teamwork – Collaborate with doctors, nurses, and other healthcare staff.

Resources for EKG Technicians

1. Certifying Organizations:

- National Healthcareer Association (NHA): www.nhanow.com
- American Medical Certification Association <https://www.amcaexams.com>
- American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians (ASPT): www.aspt.org

Please contact us for more information or questions.

