

# Cardiovascular Technologist Job Description

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## **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Prepare patients for diagnosis or treatment by cleaning, shaving them, and positioning them correctly
- Set up and operate diagnostic equipment such as electrocardiogram, ultrasound, and other cardiovascular systems
- Use electrocardiograph and treadmill to assess patients' cardiac activity
- Conduct non-invasive peripheral vascular tests using ultrasound echoes to obtain image representation of blood flow and circulation
- Attach electrodes to patients' arms, legs, and chest in order to obtain reading on an EKG machine
- Inspect cardiology equipment to identify faults and initiate repairs
- Train and supervise new cardiology technologists and interns
- Assist physicians in performing invasive procedures such as catheterization of the blood vessels
- Diagnose patients in accordance with instructions and standards set by a cardiologist
- Explain diagnostic procedures to patients to reduce anxiety
- Ensure work area such as surgical theater and cardiology unit are sterile and free of microbes
- Use EKG screen information to keep track of patients' blood pressure and cardiac activity
- Evaluate cardiac physiology and calculate valve area using blood flow velocity measurements
- Schedule appointments and maintain inventory levels of medical supplies.

## **Cardiovascular Technologist Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities**

- Education and Training: To become a cardiovascular technologist, you require an Associate's degree in radiologic technology or cardiovascular technology; some employers prefer cardio techs to have a Bachelor's degree. Certification from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS), or from the Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI), is essential to securing the job of a cardiovascular technologist. Licensure for practice may be required by some states
- Attention to details: Cardiovascular techs are able to monitor patient's vital signs to alert a physician in case of an emergency
- Technical Skill: They are well versed in operating automated diagnostic equipment to identify pulmonary or cardiac problems
- Teamwork skill: They are adept at working with physicians, cardiologists, nurses, and other health specialists to provide adequate care to patients.