**Hazardous Exposure Statement**

1. Biological Hazards

Bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HIV, Hepatitis B & C)

Other bodily fluids (e.g., urine, feces, amniotic fluid)

Airborne pathogens (e.g., tuberculosis, COVID-19)

Sharps injuries (e.g., scalpel cuts, needle sticks)

2. Chemical Hazards

Disinfectants and sterilants (e.g., glutaraldehyde, formaldehyde)

Anesthetic gases (e.g., nitrous oxide, isoflurane) from OR leaks

Cleaning agents used for instruments and surfaces

Latex exposure (gloves and equipment)

3. Physical Hazards

Radiation exposure during fluoroscopy or X-ray-guided procedures

Laser and electrical burns from surgical equipment

Noise from surgical tools (e.g., drills, suction devices)

Heat from cautery tools or operating lights

4. Ergonomic Hazards

Repetitive motion injuries (e.g., wrist, shoulder strain)

Standing for prolonged periods

Lifting/moving heavy equipment or patients

5. Psychological Hazards

High-stress environment

Exposure to traumatic injuries or critical situations

Long and irregular work hours

Surgical technologists must adhere to strict safety protocols—including PPE usage, sharps precautions, and equipment handling—to minimize these risks.