

SURGERY CLERKSHIP LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND IMPORTANT CONDITIONS

Clerkship Objectives

The surgery clerkship is designed to provide the student with a balanced, multidisciplinary perspective of the surgical sciences. The objectives are:

- To understand the surgical management of disease.
- To understand the clinical and technical resources available for diagnosing surgical problems.
- To appreciate expectations and limitations of appropriate surgical theory.
- To gain familiarity with the pre- and post-operative care of patients.
- To learn, through the presentations of major surgical problems, to establish correlations among clinical observation, surgical (operative) pathology, and the physiological alterations achieved through surgery.
- To appreciate the philosophy and practice of surgery and their relationships to general medical practice.
- To appreciate strengths of a sampling of surgical subspecialties.
- To appreciate the nature of surgical health care delivery at a variety of institutions - e.g., private, county, academic medical center, V.A. Administration, etc.
- To understand the system of surgical health care delivery to both inpatients and outpatients in a variety of settings, such as private, county, academic medical center, VA Administration, etc.
- To become familiar with ward procedures.
- To participate in patient care activities
- To function as a member of the surgical team.
- To appreciate the entire treatment cycle of the surgical patient from diagnosis to operative management and through recovery.

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS

Complaints

Abdominal pain	Multisystem trauma
Acid-base disturbance	Rectal bleeding
Breast lump	Rectal pain/discomfort
Fluid and electrolyte disturbance	Varicose veins

Anesthesiology

Approach to failed intubation	Opioids/pain management
Code Basics	Pre-Oxygenation (maintain sat. during airway mgmnt)
Local anesthetic toxicity/doses	

General Surgery – Clinical problems

Appendicitis	Hernias
Biliary/ Pancreatic disease	Surgical infections
Bowel obstruction	Thyroid and parathyroid disease
Colorectal/Anorectal Disease	Trauma (Blunt/Penetrating)
Esophageal/ Gastric Disease	

General Surgery – Perioperative care

Fluids & electrolytes	Postoperative care
Informed consent	Preoperative evaluation
Wound/Intestinal stoma management	

Head and Neck

Neck mass	Thyroid and parathyroid disease (also in General Surgery)
Otitis	

Neurosurgery

Brain tumor	Head trauma
C-spine trauma	Intracranial hemorrhage

Oncology

Breast disease	Melanoma
Colon cancer	

Ophthalmology

Cataract	Diabetic retinopathy - proliferative
Conjunctivitis	Papilledema
Corneal abrasion	

Orthopedics

Arthritis	Fracture
Dislocations	Osteoporosis
Osteoporosis	Ligament and tendon injuries
Orthopaedic emergencies	Compartment syndrome
Joint infection	Open fractures

Pediatrics

Abdominal wall defects	Pediatric intestinal obstruction
Intussusception	

Plastic Surgery

Postmastectomy reconstruction	Skin grafts
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Urology

Benign prostatic hypertrophy	Prostate disease
Kidney stones	Varicocele

Vascular

Aneurysmal disease	Venous disease
Carotid artery disease	