

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Service Rotation Syllabus for General Surgery Interns

The Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Service is a one month rotation during which the general surgery intern will work under Drs. Juliana Hansen, Anna Kuang, Reid Mueller and Joel Solomon. There are 2 senior residents (PGY 7), 2 junior residents (PGY 6), a Hand Fellow (PGY 6), an intern (PGY 1) and a physician's assistant (PA) as well as a variable number of students who share coverage of the service.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Plastic Surgery intern provides "first-call" coverage of PLS patients on the ward from 7:00am to 7:00pm, Monday through Friday, under the supervision of the Plastic Surgery Residents, the Hand Fellow and the PLS attending. The PLS intern reports to the ward each morning in order to be prepared for rounds with the PLS resident.

Additionally, the PLS intern will fulfill the following roles and responsibilities:

- Answer all pages from nurses as soon as possible and respond to requests for patient needs in a timely fashion.
- Examine all patients who have a significant change in their condition.
- Document all patient encounters with legible chart notes.
- Justify selection of laboratory tests and diagnostic tests.
- Dictate thorough discharge summaries on all inpatients.
- Staff Friday pre-op clinic and perform thorough history and physical examinations for all patients.
- Scrub in on cases in the operating room daily, if possible, and assist attending and resident surgeons with cases, performing skin closure when appropriate.
- Attend all teaching conferences, preparing any assigned readings and participating in discussions and quizzes.
- Take part in all activities, day call responsibilities and conferences within the division.

Policies

Residents should maintain professional demeanor at all times. All patients' diagnoses and conditions are confidential and protected information. Families of patients should be kept informed of the patient's condition and plan for treatment if the patient or next-of-kin desires.

Residents are required to comply with ACGME mandated duty hour limitations.

Residents are expected to report to a resident senior to them or to an attending if they are sufficiently stressed or fatigued that they feel their duties to safe patient care may be compromised.

Educational Goals and Objectives

Medical Knowledge - Goals

- a. Understand the types of medical and surgical problems addressed on the plastic surgery service during your specific rotation. These problems could include:
 - a. Congenital defects of the head and neck, including clefts of the lip and palate, and craniofacial surgery
 - b. Neoplasms of the head and neck, including the oropharynx, and endoscopy
 - c. Craniomaxillofacial trauma, including fractures
 - d. Aesthetic (cosmetic) surgery of the head and neck, trunk, and extremities
 - e. Plastic surgery of the breast
 - f. Surgery of the hand/upper extremities
 - g. Plastic surgery of the lower extremities
 - h. Plastic surgery of congenital and acquired defects of the trunk and genitalia
 - i. Burn management, acute and reconstructive
 - j. Microsurgical techniques applicable to plastic surgery
 - k. Reconstruction by tissue transfer, including flaps and grafts
 - l. Surgery of benign and malignant lesions of the skin and soft tissues
- b. Understand conditions that will complicate surgery.
- c. Understand the appropriate techniques of tissue handling and skin closure.

Medical Knowledge - Objectives

- a. Demonstrate comprehension of pertinent medical issues through presentation of patients to team on morning rounds.
- b. Describe symptoms of healthy flaps and replants
- c. Describe symptoms of unhealthy flaps and replants
- d. Identify medications which may interfere with blood clotting
- e. Identify alternatives to blood clotting medications
- f. Name laboratory tests useful in the evaluation and management of blood clotting
- g. Demonstrate proficiency in appropriate skin closure techniques in operating room
- h. Demonstrate proficiency in appropriate tissue handling techniques in operating room
- i. Demonstrate proficiency in appropriate suturing techniques in operating room
- j. Name laboratory tests useful in the evaluation and management of wound care

Patient Care - Goals

- a. Learn to deliver responsive, timely care for all inpatients.
- b. Understand the appropriate post-operative management of free flaps and replants.
- c. Understand the appropriate post-operative management of the patient with a changing course.
- d. Learn to synthesize all available information in order to make appropriate clinical decisions.

Patient Care - Objectives

- a. Demonstrate appropriate tissue handling technique
- b. Demonstrate appropriate suturing technique
- c. Demonstrate appropriate skin closure technique
- d. Demonstrate the ability to make a diagnosis and formulate a surgical plan.
- e. Demonstrate the ability to perform suture removal, dressing changes, and wound care.
- f. Demonstrate the ability to document all patient encounters with legible chart notes.
- g. Demonstrate the ability to accurately check all flaps or replants for any change in color, temperature, capillary refill or bleeding
- h. Obtain help from seniors to achieve rapid return to operating room for exploration for any patients who may exhibit change in color, temperature, capillary refill or bleeding of flaps or replants
- i. Justify selection of laboratory tests and diagnostic tests for each patient on the service
- j. Demonstrate the ability to dictate thorough discharge summaries on all inpatients.

Practice – Based Learning - Goals

- a. Develop an attitude of responsibility for the patients on the ward, and in so doing develop the skill of self-assessment with the goal of continuous improvement in practice management style.
- b. Understand the importance of critically reading and discussing medical literature pertinent to patients on the service.

Practice – Based Learning - Objectives

- a. Critically discuss performance with respect to care of patients and progress made during rotation with Chief of Service or designee at mid-rotation meeting.

- b. At least three times during the rotation, choose a pertinent issue pertaining to a patient on the service, critically evaluate an article from the literature which addresses the problem, and present conclusions to the entire team on rounds.

Systems-Based Practice - Goals

- a. Understand the importance of supporting medical and ancillary services in the complete and efficient care of the patient.
- b. Develop a cost-effective attitude toward patient management.
- c. Develop an appreciation for the patients' interests and convenience in care management plans.

Systems-Based Practice - Objectives

- a. Facilitate discharge planning by daily communication with inpatient care manager.
- b. Describe indications for medical consultation in the pre- and post-operative periods, particularly with respect to these specialities:
 - a. Cardiology
 - b. Gastroenterology
 - c. Pain Management service
 - d. Interventional Radiology
 - e. Hematology
 - f. Infectious Disease
- c. Facilitate daily communication with consulting physicians
- d. As pertinent for each individual patient, facilitate daily communication with ancillary services, such as:
 - a. Physical Therapy
 - b. Occupational Therapy
 - c. Speech
 - d. Enterostomal Therapy
 - e. Nutrition
 - f. Mental Health
 - g. Social Services

Interpersonal and Communication Skills - Goals

- a. Develop the ability to respectfully and clearly communicate with other healthcare professionals.
- b. Learn to present patients to senior residents, fellows, and attendings in an organized and precise manner.
- c. Learn how to function effectively as a member of a team.
- d. Learn to communicate effectively with patients and their families.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills - Objectives

- a. Consistently answer nursing questions and pages clearly and effectively.
- b. Present patients on inpatient rounds in an organized and concise manner.
- c. Present clinic patients to the attending efficiently to facilitate clinic flow.
- d. Gain experience in explaining results of evaluations and recommendations for treatment to patients and their families (practice patient education skills).

Professionalism - Goals

- a. Demonstrate respect and compassion for patients and professional staff on the wards, in the clinics, and in the operating room.
- b. Develop open-mindedness regarding alternative treatments.
- c. Understand need for continual self-assessment and improvement.
- d. Develop an attitude of responsibility for patient care requests by senior residents and attendings.

Professionalism - Objectives

- a. Use appropriate speech and tone of voice when speaking to patients, families, and other healthcare professionals.
- b. Allow others the chance to speak, and listen attentively when being spoken to.
- c. Demonstrate a conscientious approach to patient care by minimizing delay of care and minimizing passage of incomplete tasks to fellow residents and interns.

Evaluation:

The intern will be evaluated in three formats throughout the rotation. First, the intern will be evaluated and given verbal feedback by the faculty and fellows during procedures and surgeries for their competency in the above described skills. Next, they will be tested at weekly didactic conferences, both verbally and through intermittent written quizzes and practical assignments. Finally, a general intern evaluation will occur at the end of the rotation with a form developed by the Department of Surgery. This form can be obtained for review by contacting Erin Anderson at 503-494-4938.

Reading:

Essentials for Students : Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery: Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation. (Given to each intern by the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the beginning of each rotation.)