CLERKSHIP OBJECTIVES:

Patient Care and Procedure Skills:

1. Perform a focused history and physical on patients with varied surgical diagnoses in the inpatient and outpatient setting.
2. Be able to review a chart, and present an accurate history and physical to an attending or resident.
3. Identify preoperative issues in patients who are candidates for surgery.
4. Write succinct, accurate clinic and ward notes or history and physicals on patients.
5. Be observed by resident or faculty in the evaluation of at least one patient.
6. Witness and participate in the process of informed consent for a surgical procedure.
7. Evaluate a new patient and independently construct a differential of surgical diagnoses.
8. Use the electronic medical record to obtain information required for patient care on a daily basis.
9. Interpret diagnostic imaging independently and review the films with a radiologist.
10. Evaluate a patient with surgical diagnoses in the following categories:
    a. Wound or abdominal wall diagnosis
    b. GI case. (Gastric bypass, bowel resection, bowel obstruction, etc.)
    c. Cancer diagnosis
    d. Inflammatory disease or acute peritonitis. (pancreatitis, inflammatory bowel disease, appendicitis, cholecystitis, etc.)
11. Essential skills:
    a. Tie a two-handed knot
    b. Instrument tie
    c. Removes sutures and staples
    d. Sterile technique and operating room protocol knowledge. View and scrub in multiple operations each week.
    e. Recognize proper and improper healing and signs of wound infection.
    f. Participate in care of an open wound.
    g. Recognize infections which require surgery.
    h. Understand the workup of postoperative fever.
    i. Write admission orders
    j. Urethral catheterization
    k. Aid with wound closure in OR.
12. Recommended skills:
    a. Nasogastric tube insertion
    b. Wound drain removal
    c. Peripheral venous catheterization
    d. Blood sampling, arterial and venous
Medical Knowledge

1. Know the normal anatomy and physiology of topics covered in manual of surgical knowledge objectives.
2. Understand the stages and cellular mechanisms of wound healing.
3. Understand the pathophysiology of diseases covered in the manual of surgical knowledge objectives.
4. Know and understand the tolerated doses and side effects of local anesthetics.
5. Understand the tolerated doses and side effects of common medications used during general anesthesia.
6. Understand the indications for antibiotics in the prophylaxis of surgical infections.
7. Understand the utility, limitations, and risks of imaging and laboratory tests for the diagnosis of acute surgical disorders.
8. Understand and use data from primary clinical trials to support decisions on patient care.
9. Critically evaluate literature in developing decisions for patient care. Educate peers on selected topics using primary literature.

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

1. Utilize feedback sessions with residents and faculty to improve performance throughout the rotation.
2. Present formal history and physicals to attending preceptor. Gain feedback and improve presentations throughout the rotation. Formulate plans of care with appropriate literature and data.
3. Utilize web based modules to gain in depth knowledge on key subjects. (WISE-MD)

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

1. Follow patients daily in the inpatient setting. Discuss concerns with patients on a daily basis. Communicate the plan of care to patients and their families.
2. Participate and witness team sign out. Aid in updating the patient list.
3. Present daily progress of patients to health care team.
4. Create educational presentations on select topics for the health care team and peers.
5. Discuss patient concerns with RNs and CNAs on a daily basis.
Professionalism

1. Recognize the challenges of end of life decision making in the acute setting.
2. Demonstrate empathy and compassion in the care of acutely ill patients.
3. Complete assignments in a timely manner. Attend conferences, rounds, and operations in a timely fashion.
4. Wear appropriate attire.
5. Follow through on patient care throughout rotation.

Systems-Based Practice

1. Work with multi-disciplinary teams to deliver optimal care to patients. Call consults and share details and plans with other specialty teams.