May 1, 2014

Greetings!

Congratulations on joining the Department of Surgery at OHSU. Your year is guaranteed to be one of unparalleled learning and growth.

During orientation you will receive a copy of the American College of Surgeon’s handbook, *Successfully Navigating the First Year of Surgical Residency: Essentials for Medical Students and PGY-1 Residents*, which details what you should know and be able to do both as your intern year begins and also at its conclusion. In the meantime, below is a list of the PGY-1 Required Patient Care Competencies that you should review now.

**PGY-1 Required Patient Care Competencies**

In accordance with ACGME regulations that went into effect on July 1, 2011, you will be initially required to have direct supervision by a resident senior to you for evaluation and management of all significant postoperative problems until you have demonstrated adequate competency in handling these problems. The following are undifferentiated complaints/problems that you should be prepared to manage:

- Abdominal distention
- Acute abdominal pain
- Alcohol or drug withdrawal
- Altered mental status (delirium, somnolence, coma)
- Anuria
- Bleeding (wound, GI tract)
- Coagulopathy
- Chest pain
- Cold leg
- Diabetic ketoacidosis
- DVT prophylaxis; anticoagulation management
- Dyspnea
- Dyrhythmias (as covered in ACLS)
- Fever
- Hyperglycemia
- Hyperkalemia
- Hypertension
- Hypoglycemia
- Hypotension
- Hypoventilation
- Hypoxia
- Nausea
Oliguria
Pneumonia
Pneumothorax
Postoperative pain
Seizures
Tachycardia
Transfusion reaction
Vomiting
Wound dehiscence
Wound hematoma or seroma

You also should be able to write a set of admission and postoperative orders for routine patient care.

Before reporting for orientation at OHSU, it is recommended that you review perioperative patient management in a standard surgical text of your choice and/or in one of the following references:

1. SCORE curriculum reference under subject “Perioperative Management”; derived from Jeffrey Norton’s Surgery: Basic Science and Clinical Evidence, Chapter 17 by Dr. Philip Barie. (Included with this letter).

Both of the paperbacks are especially good because they present the material as you encounter it: by symptoms and problems, not by diagnosis.

They are available on Amazon.com. The second reference is also available through Skyscape in an online version for the iPad and iPhone, and other versions.

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A PATIENT MANAGEMENT EXAMINATION (ESSAY-TYPE, NOT MULTIPLE CHOICE) DURING ORIENTATION TO ASSESS YOUR READINESS TO MANAGE THE ABOVE LIST OF PROBLEMS THAT YOU WILL ENCOUNTER DURING THE UPCOMING YEAR. I AM ALSO ATTACHING THREE EXAMPLES OF THE KINDS OF QUESTIONS YOU WILL BE ASKED ALONG WITH AN APPROPRIATE ANSWER FOR EACH. PLEASE REVIEW THESE EXAMPLES SO THAT YOU KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT ON THIS EXAM!

I look forward to seeing you in June for orientation.

Sincerely,

Karen Deveney, M.D., FACS
Professor of Surgery
Program Director in Surgery

Enclosures