

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center GOALS & OBJECTIVES

General Surgery Transitional Year Intern Rotation

The overall **GOAL** of the Harbor-UCLA General Surgery Residency Program is to develop ethical, competent, and fully qualified general surgeons who, upon completion of training, will dedicate themselves to a high standard of surgical practice and contribute to the ongoing provision of quality patient care. TY Resident may gain exposure to the discipline of General Surgery by participating in one of three services – Colon and Rectal Surgery, GI/Surgical Oncology, and Vascular Surgery.

OBJECTIVES

1. Provide a surgical training program that permits maximum opportunity for post-graduate education.
2. Ensure that all residents in training will acquire detailed knowledge, experience, and technical skills in relation to preoperative, operative, postoperative care of patients of all dimensions and complexities in the following areas:
 - Alimentary Tract
 - Abdomen
 - Breast
 - Skin and Soft Tissue
 - Vascular System
 - Comprehensive Management of Trauma, Burns, and Emergency Surgery
 - Surgical Critical Care
 - Abdomen
 - Head and Neck, and;
 - Endocrine System

BASIC OBJECTIVES

Upon conclusion of the first year of basic surgery training, the TY Resident will be able to:

1. Obtain complete medical histories
2. Perform complete medical examinations
3. Define patient problems
4. Develop rational plans for diagnosis
5. Implement treatments based on etiology, pathogenesis and clinical manifestations of various diseases
6. Monitor responses to treatment, including side effects from drugs
7. Evaluate patients preoperatively
8. Participate in operations
9. Follow and participate in postoperative care

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE INDIVIDUAL SURGICAL SERVICES

Colon and Rectal Surgery

The goal of this rotation is to provide the TY Resident exposure to the etiology and clinical management of colon and rectal diseases.

Objectives

1. Demonstrate skill in basic surgical techniques, including:
 - a. Suturing and knot tying
 - b. Exposure and retraction
 - c. Knowledge of instrumentation
 - d. Incisions
 - e. Closure of incisions
2. Evaluate emergency department or clinic patients who present with problems referable to colon and rectal disorders
3. Serve as assistant to the primary surgeon during operations of the small intestine, colon, and anorectum
4. Perform less complicated surgical procedures such as:
 - a. Meckel's diverticulectomy
 - b. Appendectomy
 - c. Hemorrhoidectomy and hemorrhoid banding
 - d. Anal fissurectomy and fistulotomy
 - e. Incision and drainage of perirectal abscesses
5. Accept responsibility (under the guidance of the chief resident and attending surgeon) for the postoperative management of:
 - a. Nasogastric tubes
 - b. Intestinal tubes
 - c. Intra-abdominal drains
 - d. Intestinal fistulas
 - e. Abdominal incisions (simple and complicated)
6. Evaluate and manage nutritional needs (enteral and parenteral) of surgical patients until normal GI function returns
7. Provide follow-up care to the surgical patient in the outpatient clinic

GI/Surgical Oncology

The goal of the GI/Surgical Oncology rotation is to provide the TY Resident experience pertaining to the clinical management of gastrointestinal disorders encountered in the practice of General Surgery in an academic medical center. The Surgical Oncology component of the rotation exposes the R-1 to the clinical management of diseases encountered in the practice of surgical oncology. The rotation emphasizes judgment regarding breast problems as well as operative techniques. First year residents will see patients in the clinic, follow them to the operating room, and are involved in all of the decision-making in cases.

Objectives (GI)

1. Demonstrate skill in basic surgical techniques, including:
 - a. Suturing and knot tying
 - b. Exposure and retraction
 - c. Knowledge of instrumentation
 - d. Incisions
 - e. Closure of incisions
2. Evaluate emergency department or clinic patients who present with problems referable to the GI tract
3. Serve as assistant to the primary surgeon during operations of the esophagus, stomach, small intestine, liver, biliary tract, and pancreas
4. Perform less complicated surgical procedures such as:
 - a. Gastrostomy
 - b. Meckel's diverticulectomy
 - c. Appendectomy
5. Accept responsibility (under the guidance of the chief resident and attending surgeon) for the postoperative management of:
 - a. Nasogastric tubes
 - b. Intestinal tubes
 - c. Intra-abdominal drains
 - d. Intestinal fistulas
 - e. Abdominal incisions (simple and complicated)
6. Evaluate and manage nutritional needs (enteral and parenteral) of surgical patients until normal GI function returns
7. Provide follow-up care to the surgical patient in the outpatient clinic

Objectives (Surgical Oncology)

1. Demonstrate skill in basic surgical techniques, including:
 - a. Suturing and knot tying
 - b. Exposure and retraction
 - c. Knowledge of instrumentation
 - d. Incisions
 - e. Closure of incisions
2. Learn the characteristics of the various staging systems and explain their use in evaluating malignant neoplasms
3. Become competent in the appropriate usage of tumor markers, tumor excretory metabolites, imaging studies, and diagnostic cytohistologic techniques
4. Understand the indications for curative versus palliative treatment, and formulate therapeutic plans for each approach
5. Become familiar with currently used chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and immunotherapy protocols for common cancers
6. Understand the current applications of genetic screening for cancer

Vascular Surgery

The goal of the Vascular Surgery rotation is to enhance the TY Resident's understanding of and skills relating to the management of patients with vascular disease.

Objectives

1. Demonstrate skill in basic surgical techniques, including:
 - a. Suturing and knot tying
 - b. Exposure and retraction
 - c. Knowledge of instrumentation
 - d. Incisions
 - e. Closure of incisions
 - f. Handling of graft material
2. Screen and evaluate patients for vascular disease
3. Perform the preoperative assessment and postoperative care of patients undergoing major vascular surgical procedures such as, detailed vascular examination and use of Doppler in vascular assessment
4. Participate in surgery for varicose vein disease, including:
 - a. Ligation and stripping
 - b. Manage venous stasis ulcers
 - c. Manage venous thrombosis
5. Participate in amputations with specific attention to:
 - a. Demarcation levels
 - b. Control of toxicity
6. Demonstrate proficiency in venous access procedures
7. Demonstrate the ability to perform arterial access or arteriovenous access, including:
 - a. Incisions
 - b. Closure of incision
8. Participate in thromboendarterectomy and thrombectomy
9. Demonstrate appropriate vascular suture techniques

Competency-based Objectives for Rotations in General Surgery

1. Patient Care

- Plans a diagnostic and therapeutic program for severely ill surgical patients
- Performs an appropriate focused surgical history and physical examination on patients with severe and acute surgical disorders
- Performs and documents the procedures likely to be encountered in taking care of surgical patients under appropriate supervision
- Writes appropriate orders and plans for acutely ill surgical patients

2. Medical Knowledge

- Appropriate knowledge of pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management of acute surgical problems

- Can explain indications for and complications of commonly used diagnostic tests and medical therapies in surgical patients
- Demonstrates awareness of areas of needed improvement in surgery knowledge
- Can explain indications and complications of surgical therapy, including bleeding, re-operation, infection, decompensation and death.

3. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

- Shows appropriate use of consultation with medical and non-medical services, including special diagnostic studies
- Uses evidence from the medical literature to answer clinical questions
- Identifies areas for potential improvement in personal delivery of care
- Maintains a positive attitude towards learning, including attendance and participation on patient rounds and conferences, and evidence of reading or other methods of gaining knowledge
- Participates actively in teaching others, including students, residents, and faculty

4. Interpersonal and Communications Skills

- Presents a patient effectively and efficiently, avoiding jargon, and concisely summarizing pertinent information and plans
- Communicates with patients and concerned others effectively
- Writes accurate, complete, and legible entries in the medical record
- Works constructively as part of a team
- Exchanges information effectively and efficiently during rounds that reflects surgical issues and problems, current therapeutic plans, and expected complications and issues
- Understands the impact of severe surgical illness on patient and family, including medical ethical decision-making

5. Professionalism

- Focuses on issues of appropriate and adequate pain management
- Recognizes the importance of a patient's cultural, language, or family background and support
- Recognizes important end of life issues, including decision-making and forgoing of care
- Demonstrates respect and compassion for patients, including issues of informed consent
- Consistently interacts with other health care workers in a professional manner

6. Systems-Based Practice

- Appreciates the relationships between different levels of inpatient care, including general wards, progressive care, and surgical care.
- Understands basic information about cost-effectiveness care in the surgical and knows where to seek further information
- Demonstrates awareness of the outcomes of surgical care