

Welcome to the GI Surgery Rotation!

During this rotation you will become familiar not only with GI surgery problems, but also basic surgical principles that apply to many different disciplines. You will find that attention to detail in regard to medical issues must be considered in order to optimize the results of surgical outcomes. There will be many opportunities for learning on this service including in the clinic, in the OR, in conferences, and on rounds with the house staff and attendings. However, consistent with the principles of adult learning, much will be **up to you** to take advantage of these opportunities. Our goal is to teach you how to learn, not to spoon feed you a list of competencies.

So how can you maximize your experience? Of course, you will have many competing demands and goals, so you must be efficient with your time. First, you should have a positive attitude, no matter what your previous perceptions about surgery or interest in another field with apparent minimal relevance to surgery. You may be surprised. Second, participate. You can be an important part of the team. Third, be on time. If you can't be on time, be early. People notice. Fourth, read and review; to be minimally prepared we expect you to do the following :

- 1) **Review the pathophysiology and anatomy *before* you go to the OR.** You will shine.
- 2) **Know why the patient is having the procedure.** If you don't you may be asked to leave the room.

3) Be able to discuss the potential complications of the procedure. You should know what problems your patients may have after surgery or interventions.

You can ask questions too, especially if these are not clear from your reading. We don't expect you to be knowledgeable about surgical techniques and nuances, and we will guide you in your initial presentations on rounds and conferences. Just try and know more about your patients than anyone else! There are some moments in the operating room when we are concentrating on the case and can't talk but this is rare. Mostly we don't like silence and like to have you involved in the operation.

Small group sessions are a priority, but hopefully your preceptor will schedule them other than mornings when much of our OR and teaching clinics occur. Remember, the small group sessions are to familiarize you with the MINIMUM knowledge any physician should have about surgery. We would encourage you to go beyond this by exploring any standard textbook in surgery to read about cases you will see on this or any other surgical or subspecialty service.

Besides the above, we expect attendance at all the Surgery major conferences in 2W AMP on Tuesday (Grand Rounds @ 7AM and M&M @ 4 PM) as well as our combined Med-Surg GI Conference on Monday afternoon at 4:30 PM in ART 2008. We do not have an assigned or recommended text. We realize that you all learn in different ways and expect you to pick the best education material for your needs. This is adult learning. We do expect you to be familiar with Advanced Pub Med Search engines to answer clinical questions pertinent to patient management.

Rounds and assigned tasks generally will be at the discretion of the Senior Resident, who is responsible for the day to day ward care of our vascular patients. All of the attendings have varying schedules for clinic and O.R. days. You will be assigned 3 two week rotations: 1. Panc-Bili with Drs. Adams and Morgan; 2. Bariatric-Lap-Colon-Rectum with Drs. Byrne, Hammond, Pullatt, Maxwell, & Lockett; 3. Clinic. When in the clinic you will spend every day in the ART GI clinic on the first floor seeing patients with the attendings and the P.A.'s. During this time period you are required to schedule an observed history and physical with one of our faculty Physician Extender: Diane Axiotis, Stefanie Owczarski, and Megan Walters. They are all great teachers and will introduce you to the logistics of working in the clinic. Remember that as an intern you will be

judged not on what you know but what you can do in taking care of patients. When on the clinical services you will round, go to the O.R. and go to clinic with the attending and resident staff.

We look forward to having you on our service!