

## **POST-GRADUATE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – GENERAL SURGERY ST. JOSEPH’S HEALTH CENTRE**

### **OVERVIEW**

As the Division of General and Thoracic surgery at St. Joseph’s Health Centre, our goal is to provide residents exposure to common general surgery problems with a focus on the clinical and operative experience. We are unique within the University in that we house provincially-approved specialty programs in Bariatrics, Hepatopancreatobiliary, and Thoracic Surgery. This offers residents the exposure to the more challenging and complex surgical procedures that will help them develop high end technical skills transferable to many areas of general surgery. Community

### **GENERAL AIMS/OBJECTIVES**

1. To provide a comprehensive community clinical experience, with broad exposure to common ambulatory general surgical problems, including abdominal wall/hernia, breast, colorectal, head and neck and surgical oncology.
2. To provide exposure to expert tertiary care surgery in the areas of Bariatric surgery Hepatopancreatobiliary and Thoracic surgery.
3. To provide education and exposure to the contemporary approach to emergency surgery in the context of an Acute Care Surgery service.

### **SPECIFIC EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES**

#### **Medical expert**

##### 1. Clinical skills

For the most common general surgical presentations the resident should be able to demonstrate competence in the following:

- a. Develop safe and efficient care plans for surgical patients in the ambulatory setting, on the wards including ICU, and in the Emergency department.
- b. Take a relevant history and perform a physical examination to arrive at an appropriate weighted differential diagnosis.
- c. Order appropriate laboratory and diagnostic procedures and interpret results in order to determine a clear management plan, demonstrating knowledge of the disease process.
- d. Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to perform a wide range of operative and diagnostic procedures.
- e. Recognize and manage appropriately post-operative complications.

**PGY1-2** Will consistently arrive at a correct diagnosis for common surgical problems, treatment plans may require input and revision by more senior individuals.

**PGY3** Will consistently arrive at a correct diagnosis for most general surgical problems and treatment plans will only require input and or revision by more senior individuals for more complex cases.

**PGY4-5** Will consistently arrive at a correct diagnosis for all general surgical problems and treatment plans will be complete even when problems are complex or difficult. The resident will make correct and timely

decisions.

## 2. Technical skills

As a member of the operative team, the general surgery resident will be expected to do the following:

- PGY1-2**
  - Demonstrate competence in sterile technique, surgical instruments and suture materials
  - Assist in simple and complex operations and perform simple procedures under supervision
  - Open and close surgical wounds, control bleeding and handle tissues, suture minor lacerations
  - Perform a laparoscopic appendectomy for simple appendicitis with some assistance
  
- PGY3**
  - Act as an able surgical assistant in simple and complex operations and perform common procedures such as appendectomy, elective cholecystectomy, and simple hernias with some assistance
  
- PGY4-5**
  - Perform independently most general surgical procedures
  - Demonstrate the ability to act as the primary assistant on more complex procedures such as Whipple procedure, bariatric procedures, and laparoscopic colorectal procedures
  - Lead an operating team and treat surgical problems in a safe, effective and efficient manner
  - Deal with unusual or unexpected findings/events during surgery

### **Communicator**

Residents should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Obtain and synthesize relevant history from patients, their families and the medical community (PGY1-2).
2. Effectively communicate information to patients and family members, explaining the disease process and the benefits, risks, complications and alternatives of management recommendations, in terms each individual can understand (PGY3-5).
3. Maintain concise, pertinent, and up-to-date medical records, both written and dictated (PGY1-5).

### **Collaborator**

Residents should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Work effectively with other physicians and health care professionals and be able to give and receive advice in a pleasant, professional manner (PGY1-2).
2. Properly sign over and receive sign over for patient care with fellow residents on a day to day basis at the beginning and end of one's clinical day (PGY1-5)

### **Manager**

Residents should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Balance patient care, learning needs, and personal activities (PGY1-5).
2. Demonstrate an appreciation of economic factors that influence decision-making and the impact of

such factors on patients and families (PGY3-5).

### **Health Advocate**

Residents should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Recognize and respond to those issues where advocacy is appropriate (PGY3-5).

### **Scholar**

Residents should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Continue the discipline of self-education and apply this knowledge to the clinical setting (PGY1-5).
2. Critically appraise literature as it relates to the clinical setting (PGY1-5).

### **Professional**

Residents should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Deliver the highest quality of care with integrity, reliability, and a well-developed sense of responsibility, honesty, and compassion (PGY1-5).
2. Exhibit appropriate professional behavior, with sound moral and ethical standards consistent with the obligations of a physician (PGY1-5).