

UHN –Princess Margaret Cancer Centre Breast/Melanoma Rotation Specific Resident Competencies & Objectives

The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre rotation is designed to provide general surgery residents with experience in Breast and Melanoma Surgical Oncology. The scope of activities in this rotation includes procedures such breast conserving surgery, oncoplastic surgery, mastectomy, axillary surgery (SLNB and ALND) as well as wide local skin excisions and rotation flaps. The resident will also take part in clinics to understand and apply knowledge of breast disease and melanoma. They will be a member of a multidisciplinary care team and will have dedicated rounds and teaching, including journal club.

1. Medical Expert

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Demonstrate an understanding of relevant breast, axilla, and groin anatomy and physiology.

Demonstrate an approach to the workup and management of benign and malignant breast and skin diseases.

Demonstrate an ability to carry out a sentinel lymph node biopsy, lumpectomy, simple mastectomy, and the indications/contraindications for each.

Demonstrate the approach to the work-up and management of a pigmented lesion.

Carry out a punch biopsy, incisional biopsy, excisional biopsy, wide local excision, and sentinel lymph node biopsy and be able to describe the indications/contraindications of each in the management of a pigmented lesion.

Describe the indications and contraindications for axillary lymph node dissection and groin dissection in breast cancer and melanoma patients, and perform these procedures with assistance.

Demonstrate an approach to the management of lymphedema.

Demonstrate appropriate preoperative planning and preparation including patient marking, imaging display and completion of the peri-operative check list.

2. Communicator

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Deliver bad news in a compassionate and sensitive manner that takes into account the patient's unique psychological and social needs.

Obtain informed consent including an effective explanation of the rationale for the recommended surgical approach and its possible complications.

Exhibit a sensitive and culturally appropriate style of communicating with patients and their families.

Explain and discuss all aspects of a patient's treatment and care plan in lay terms.

Effectively present case and rounds.

3. Collaborator

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Effectively and appropriately consults other physicians and health care professionals.

Contribute effectively to interdisciplinary team activities including patient review working rounds and tumor boards.

4. Manager

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Use health care resources appropriately and efficiently.

Demonstrate effective time management skills and punctuality.

5. Health Advocate

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Describe and promote the recommendations for breast cancer screening in Ontario

Discuss with patients the way to minimize breast cancer recurrence when appropriate (exercise, weight reduction)

Discuss the importance of screening for melanoma and strategies to minimize melanoma recurrence (avoidance of excessive ultraviolet light exposure, sun screen use).

Promote the standard of care in the surgical management of breast disease and melanoma.

6. Scholar

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Critically appraise relevant current literature on the surgical management of breast cancer and melanoma.

Demonstrate effective self-directed learning in terms of reading around cases, asking questions, and recognizing need for lifelong learning.

Appropriately research and present topics for teaching rounds.

7. Professional

By the end of the rotation the general surgery resident will be able to:

Demonstrate respect for colleagues, more junior trainees and other members of the health care team.

Demonstrate empathy, cultural sensitivity, honesty and compassion while performing high quality patient care.

Demonstrate insight into strengths and weaknesses and receive feedback appropriately.