

CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES

Objectives for the surgical curriculum identify what the resident should know and be able to do. At the completion of training, the resident should be able to:

- Manage surgical disorders based on a thorough knowledge of basic and clinical science.
- Demonstrate appropriate skill in the surgical techniques required of a qualified surgeon.
- Demonstrate the use of critical thinking when making decisions affecting the life of a patient and the patient's family.
- Make sound ethical and legal judgments appropriate for a qualified surgeon.
- Collaborate effectively with colleagues and other health professionals.
- Teach and share knowledge with colleagues, residents, students, and other health care providers.
- Teach patients and their families about the patient's health needs.
- Demonstrate acceptance of the value of life-long learning as a necessary prerequisite to maintaining surgical knowledge and skill.
- Demonstrate a commitment to scholarly pursuits through the conduct and evaluation of research.
- Demonstrate leadership in the management of complex programs and organizations.
- Provide cost-effective care to surgical patients and families within the community.
- Respect the religious beliefs of patients and their families and provide surgical care in accordance with those beliefs.

Patient Care and Judgment: The development of sound surgical judgment is an integral part of the skills needed to become a capable general surgeon. The ability to acquire information and integrate it with daily patient care through the examination of the patient, data collection, and the consideration of clinical variables is essential for the capable surgeon.

Technical Skills: The ability to safely perform operative procedures is essential for the surgeon. Manual dexterity, along with sound knowledge of wound healing, principles of tissue handling, and safe conduct of elective and emergency operative procedures, is essential to the resident's development.

Interpersonal Skills: Relationships with patients, hospital personnel, and the community are essential components to becoming a capable physician. Integrity and compassion are considered to be major components of the General Surgery Residency Program.

Scholarly Activity: The acquisition of knowledge and critical evaluation of medical literature is essential to the resident's education. Personal experience in clinical research is essential to developing sound analytic thought processes and utilizing the scientific method to collate data and enhance the body of knowledge of general surgery.

Teaching Abilities: The institution is committed to education as an essential component of excellence in patient care. Each resident must develop the ability to teach in both informal clinical settings and in the more structured settings of Basic Science and Matrix Conferences.

Time Management: Physicians have many demands placed on their most limited resource--time. Residents must learn to appropriately prioritize their activities and commitments to meet the needs of their patients, their ongoing education, their health, and their family. Inability to bring these components into balance will jeopardize the function of a capable surgeon.

Attendance: Each resident is expected to attend to all clinical duties and conferences in a timely fashion. The education of a surgeon is a multifaceted activity that requires group interaction and participation.

Suitability: As determined by the Program Director and the Surgical Education Committee, each resident must meet the expectations of the Department of Surgery. To maintain good standing in the program, the committee must determine that the trainee is capable of becoming a board-certified surgeon in good standing in his/her community.