

# General Surgery – Colon and Rectal

**Institution:** Vanderbilt University Medical Center & VA Medical Center

**Duration:** 2 months

**Supervising Physician:** Dr. Molly Ford

**Contact Information:**  
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**Year of Training:** PGY-5

## Educational Objectives:

### Introduction

The rotation on the Colon and Rectal Surgery service allows for both inpatient and outpatient surgical evaluation and care. There are 5 attending surgeons, 2 outpatient Nurse Practitioners, and 1 inpatient Nurse Practitioner. On a 8-week rotation, the resident will be exposed to many of the diagnoses we treat and will be able to gain knowledge of these disease processes through patient care, discussion, conferences, and rounds. The PGY-5 is the leader of the team and responsible for the daily coordination of each team member. They are to formulate all plans on patient care, both inpatients and consults, then communicate the daily plan to the attending for approval or amendment.

### Patient Care and Procedural Skills:

- ✓ Competency in laparoscopic colon resection.
- ✓ Proficiency in performing a proper oncologic colon/rectum resection.
- ✓ Competency in evaluating and treating patients with hemorrhoids, anal fissures, complex fistula disease, hidradenitis, anal condyloma, and pilonidal disease.
- ✓ Ability to perform appropriate operations for inflammatory bowel disease. (IPAA vs. TAC vs. segmental resection vs. ileocolic resection.)
- ✓ Demonstrate ability to perform a proper oncologic left colon resection
- ✓ Ability to perform colonoscopy with polypectomy
- ✓ Ability to perform a laparoscopic right hemicolectomy

### Medical Knowledge:

- ✓ Comprehensive knowledge of the surgical treatment of colon and rectal disease processes including the indications, contraindications, surgical options, and complications.
- ✓ Comprehensive knowledge of complex anorectal disease processes and the possible methods of treatment.
- ✓ Comprehensive knowledge of the diagnosis and management of the complications of surgical treatment of colon and rectal disease.
- ✓ Comprehensive knowledge of the anatomy, pathology, and pathophysiology of the colon, rectum and anus.
- ✓ Understands pathophysiology, treatment, surgical options and possible complications related to the treatment of IBD
- ✓ Understand pathophysiology, treatment, surgical options and possible complications related to the treatment of diverticular disease
- ✓ Clear understanding of pathophysiology, staging, surgical treatment options, and possible complications related to colon and rectal cancer

### Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

- ✓ Write an accurate, detailed, and legible preoperative assessment and counseling note on all patients for which he/she serves as surgeon of record.
- ✓ Utilize assigned journal articles as well as available textbook chapters and information technology (including PubMed search and literature review)
- ✓ Participate in the education of patients, families, students, residents, and other health professionals.
- ✓ Incorporate formative evaluation feedback into daily practice.

### Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- ✓ The resident should ensure that the attending is aware of the progress of all patients on the service.
- ✓ The resident should clearly, accurately, and respectfully communicate with nurses and other Hospital employees.
- ✓ The resident should clearly, accurately, and respectfully communicate with referring and consulting physicians, including residents.

- ✓ The resident should clearly, accurately, and respectfully communicate with patients and appropriate members with their families about identified disease processes (including complications), the expected courses, operative findings, and operative procedures.
- ✓ The resident should ensure that clear, concise, accurate, and timely medical records are maintained on all patients.
- ✓ The resident should be able to clearly and accurately teach medical students and junior residents about the procedures performed on this rotation when qualified to do so by hospital and program policy.
- ✓ Expected to establish expectations, roles, and responsibilities for junior residents, clerkship students and senior level students rotating on service.
- ✓ Expected to provide routine educational activities to junior residents and students while on service (such as teaching on rounds, chalk-talks, knot-tying, etc.)
- ✓ Expected to provide timely feedback and assessments to the program director, clerkship director and medical student supervisor as requested

### **Professionalism**

**Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles. Residents must:**

- ✓ Demonstrate compassion, integrity, and respect for others.
- ✓ Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, and sexual orientation.
- ✓ Demonstrate sensitivity to issues of age, race, gender, and religion with patients, family, and members of the healthcare team.
- ✓ Demonstrate respect for patient privacy and autonomy.
- ✓ Remain honest with all individuals at all times in conveying issues of patient care.
- ✓ Respond to the needs of the patient above one's own needs and desires.
- ✓ Maintain high standards of ethical behavior in all professional activities.
- ✓ Demonstrate a commitment to the continuity of patient care to carrying out professional responsibilities or through assuring that those responsibilities are fully and accurately conveyed others acting in his/her stead.
- ✓ Understand the institutional policy on duty hours and remain compliant with all duty hour regulations. Residents must enter the number of hours spent in the hospital into the tracking system weekly.
- ✓ Be properly and professionally attired at all times while engaged in patient care.
- ✓ Be properly and professionally groomed at all times when engaged in patient care.
- ✓ At all times treat patients, families, and all members of the healthcare team with respect.
- ✓ Reliably be present in prearranged places at prearranged times except when actively engaged in the treatment of a medical or surgical emergency. The resident must notify the appropriate supervisor if he or she will be unable to be present.
- ✓ Remain compliant with all required training designated by the institution.

### **Systems-based practice**

- ✓ The resident should be able to assess the risks and benefits of all options for treating patients with surgical illness.
- ✓ The resident should be able to summarize the financial costs, potential complications, and long-term expectations for planned procedures.
- ✓ The resident should recognize the differences between the three hospital systems in which he or she will participate: federal, university, and private.
- ✓ The resident should be able to determine the benefit of additional treatment by other services such as plastic surgery, interventional radiology, and orthopedics.
- ✓ The resident should be able to determine and convey to appropriate individuals the instruments and other materials necessary for all procedures.

## **Description of Clinical Experiences:**

Specific Daily Responsibilities of the PGY-5 Resident:

- ✓ Lead team rounds in the morning.
- ✓ Communicate inpatient assessment and plan with the attending each morning prior to the OR
- ✓ Attend assigned clinics and OR cases

- ✓ Follow up on evolution of patient care during the day and notify attending as indicated
- ✓ Oversee evaluation and communication of all consults with attending
- ✓ Make the weekly schedule assignments for residents and medical students
- ✓ Participate in the education of the PGY-1, PGY-3, and medical students
- ✓ Prepare for OR cases with a comprehensive understanding of the patient, disease process, and procedure
- ✓ Organize and coordinate weekly CRS teaching rounds

### **Description of Didactic Experiences:**

1. Colorectal Teaching Conference: A team conference every Thursday from 8:00 – 9:00 attending by all attendings, residents, and students on the rotation.
2. Inflammatory Bowel Disease Conference – monthly multidisciplinary conference on Mondays
3. GI Solid Tumor board (optional) – weekly multidisciplinary conference from 7:00 to 8:00 on Tuesdays

### **Evaluation Process:**

Faculty and senior residents will evaluate the performance of each resident using these goals and objectives. Each resident on the service will evaluate the rotation, the service, faculty and any senior residents also on the rotation.

### **Other Important Rotation Information:**