

General Surgery – Oncology/Endocrine

Institution: Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Duration: 4 weeks

Supervising Physician: Christina Bailey

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Year of Training: PGY-1

Educational Objectives:

We would like to welcome you to the Surgical Oncology/Endocrine Service and hope you will have a rewarding and educational experience. Our goal is to help you gain experience and expertise in the treatment of a variety of oncology and endocrine disorders and hopefully to convince some of you to pursue a career in our field. In addition to the faculty and their assistants, there are several other people that are vital to our division and to your experience on our service. These include administrative assistants, nurse practitioners, clinic nurses and our surgery scheduler among many others. All of these individuals are an integral part of our team. As such, please be courteous and considerate to all of them.

Medical Knowledge

Upon completion of the rotation, residents should:

- ✓ Understand the basic fundamentals of pathology and physiology of cancer and endocrine diseases.
- ✓ Develop a basic knowledge of clinical evaluation and pre and postoperative management of surgical oncology and endocrine surgery patients.
- ✓ Understand the options for surgical management of breast cancer and melanoma.
- ✓ Understand the basic principles of multidisciplinary treatment of breast cancer, melanoma and alimentary tract neoplasms including AJCC staging.

Patient Care and Procedural Skills

During the rotation, PGY-I residents should:

- ✓ Develop basic surgical skills including exposure, suturing, 2-handed square knot tying, flap elevation, wound closure and vascular access.
- ✓ Gain skills in the perioperative management of the surgical patient including management of common postoperative problems such as fever, wound infection, hypoxia, hypotension, low urine output, mental status changes, nausea, vomiting and inadequate pain control.
- ✓ Gain skills in the interpretation of imaging studies including CXR, abdominal films, CT scans and mammograms.

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Residents must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. Residents are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals:

- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Participate in the education of medical students on service, as appropriate.

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 within 24 hours of duty.
- ✓ 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-1 Resident include the following: The role of the intern is the daily management of the patients on the service. This includes the preparation for and execution of morning rounds with oversight by the mid to upper level residents, daily notes and orders, arranging studies, following-up test results, coordinating discharge arrangements, calling consults, and identification and management of patient issues and complications. Every attempt should be made to complete daily notes prior to going to the OR and/or clinic. Interns are expected to attend one clinic per week. OR cases will be assigned by the chief resident. Interns are expected to take the time to prepare for both clinic and the OR (i.e. review StarPanel, radiographic imaging and anatomy).

Description of Didactic Experiences:

Attend surgical oncology and breast clinics as assigned, including the equivalent of at least one full day of clinic per week, as well as Surgical Oncology Teaching Conference, VUMC Multidisciplinary Solid Tumor Conference, Melanoma Multidisciplinary Tumor Board, and the VUMC Breast Conference as assigned weekly.

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:

Duty hours are to be reported weekly, as outlined by the General Surgery Residency Program Director, and are expected to follow all ACGME guidelines.