

Elective: General Surgical - Green Service (Oncology)

OVERVIEW

The Surgical Oncology or Green Surgery service is one of the general surgery services, based at the Health Sciences Centre, but with clinics and surgery at St. Boniface General Hospital and the Breast Health Centre as well. The service sees approximately 100 new and 300-400 follow-up cancer patients each month. The service emphasizes a multidisciplinary approach to the diagnosis and management of the cancer patient. The majority of our work involves the following disease sites or tumours:

1. Breast cancer
2. Head and Neck cancer
3. Gastrointestinal malignancy
4. Melanoma
5. Sarcoma

The Surgical Oncology service exposes the medical student to a wide range of outpatient clinics. The outpatient clinics are run through the CancerCare Manitoba sites at the Health Sciences Centre, St Boniface General Hospital, and the WRHA Breast Health Centre. Clinics are primarily disease site specific thus providing an opportunity for the student to become comfortable with the history, examination and management of the clinic's particular disease focus within the time frame of the rotation. The student is encouraged to assess new patients in each clinic and follow the patient through the diagnosis, treatment planning and initial stages of management.

The exposure to surgery includes biopsy techniques such as fine needle aspiration, core biopsy, punch biopsy, incisional and excisional biopsies. Operative surgery includes common procedures for breast cancer (lumpectomies, mastectomies, sentinel node biopsy and axillary dissection), thyroid surgery, melanoma surgery, GI resections, neck dissections, major head and neck resections and sarcoma surgery. With an average of three operative slates each week the student should be exposed to a variety of surgical cases.

INTRODUCTION

Location(s):

Health Sciences Centre
St. Boniface General Hospital
CancerCare Manitoba
Breast Health Centre

Preceptors:

Attending Surgeons

Dr. Ethel MacIntosh, Assistant Professor
Dr. Debrah Wirtzfeld, Associate Professor
Dr. Pam Hebbard, Associate Professor
Dr. Justin Rivard, Associate Professor
Dr. Ross Stimpson, Assistant Professor

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Contact Person:

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

Medical Expert

As Medical Experts, physicians integrate all of the CanMEDS Roles, applying medical knowledge, clinical skills and professional attitudes in their provision of patient-centered care.

Goals

The student will understand the surgeon's role in the multidisciplinary management of cancer as it applies to:

- prevention
- screening (including hereditary cancers)
- diagnosis
- treatment
- palliation
- rehabilitation
- prevention

Specific malignancies that are treated on the Surgical Oncology Service include:

- breast cancer
- head & neck cancers
- thyroid cancers and benign thyroid diseases
- melanoma
- colorectal cancer
- sarcoma

Surgery includes common oncologic procedures for breast, thyroid and colorectal malignancies, as well as less common procedures, such as neck dissections, laryngectomies, sentinel node and sarcoma surgery.

Technical Skills

Biopsy techniques such as fine needle aspiration, punch biopsy, and incisional or excisional biopsies.

Content

- Attend morning ward rounds (Monday –Friday).
- Attend surgical tutorials
- Attend multidisciplinary case rounds
- Participate in the daily management of the inpatient ward as supervised by the residents
- Participate in a variety of outpatient clinics
- Attend the operating room

Technical Skills

Biopsy techniques such as fine needle aspiration, punch biopsy, and incisional or excisional biopsies.

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Communicator

Physicians effectively facilitate the doctor-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during, and after the medical encounter.

Establish rapport, trust and a therapeutic relationship with patients and families.

- Listen effectively.
- Elicit relevant information and perspectives of patients, families, and the health care team.
- Convey relevant information and explanations to patients, families and the health care team.
- Convey effective oral and written information about a medical encounter.
- Maintain clear, accurate, appropriate, and timely records of clinical encounters and operative procedures
- Address challenging communication issues effectively
 - Obtain informed consent
 - Deliver bad news
 - Disclose adverse events
 - Discuss end-of-life care
 - Discuss organ donation
 - Addressing anger, confusion and misunderstanding using a patient centre approach

Collaborator

Physicians effectively work within a healthcare team to achieve optimal patient care.

As Collaborators, students will work effectively within the surgical team to achieve optimal patient care

- Demonstrate a team approach to health care
- Participate effectively in an interprofessional and interdisciplinary health care team.
- Recognize and respect the diversity of roles, responsibilities, and competences of other health professionals in the management of the surgical patient.
- Work with others to assess, plan, provide, and integrate care of the surgical patient.

Leader

Physicians engage with others to contribute to a vision of a high-quality health care system and take responsibility for the delivery of excellent patient care through their activities as clinicians, administrators, scholars, or teachers.

- Employ information technology appropriately for patient care.
- Allocate finite health care resources appropriately

Health Advocate

Physicians responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations.

- Concern for the best interest of patients
- Identifying health needs of individual patients, and advocate for the patient in cases where

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appropriate

- Promote and participate in patient safety

Scholar

Physicians demonstrate a lifelong commitment to reflective learning, as well as the creation, dissemination, application and translation of medical knowledge.

- Demonstrate the ability for continuing self learning
- Discuss the principles of surgery and the application of basic sciences to surgical treatment.
- Demonstrate appropriate presentation skills, including formal and informal presentations.
- Critically evaluate medical information and its sources and apply this appropriately to clinical decisions.
- Critically appraise the evidence in order to address a clinical question.
- Integrate critical appraisal conclusions into clinical care.

Professional

As Professionals, physicians are committed to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation, and high personal standards of behaviour.

- Exhibit professional behaviors in practice, including honesty, integrity, commitment, compassion, respect and altruism.
- Demonstrate a commitment to delivering the highest quality care.
- Recognize and respond appropriately to ethical issues encountered in practice.
- Recognize and respect patient confidentiality, privacy and autonomy.
- Participation in peer review
- Manage conflicts of interest
- Maintain appropriate relations with patients.
- Demonstrate awareness of industry influence on medical training and practice
- Recognition of personal and clinical limitations

INFORMATION

Required Reading

Lawrence Essentials of General Surgery, 3rd Ed. Chapters of particular relevance to this rotation include:

Chapter 2 - Preoperative Medical Evaluation of Surgical Patients

Chapter 3 - Fluid & Electrolytes

Chapter 4 - Nutrition

Chapter 5 - Surgical Bleeding & Blood Replacement

Chapter 6 - Shock

Chapter 7 - Wounds & Wound Healing

Chapter 8 - Surgical Infections

Chapter 11 - Abdominal Wall, Including Hernia

Chapter 13 - Stomach & Duodenum

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Chapter 14 - Small Intestine & Appendix
Chapter 15 - Colon, Rectum & Anus
Chapter 19 - Breast
Chapter 20 - Surgical Endocrinology
Chapter 21 - Spleen
Chapter 24 - Surgical Oncology
Chapter 26 - Surgical Procedures, Techniques & Skills
Cecil's Essentials Of Medicine.

Teaching Unit

- The Surgical Oncology ward is located on GH5 at the Health Sciences Centre.
- The Surgical Oncology clinic is located at Clinic 1, first floor, CancerCare Manitoba (MacCharles Unit attached to HSC).
- The Breast Health Centre is located on Tache Ave, across from St. Boniface General Hospital.

Evaluations

An exit interview will be performed on leaving the service by the student's preceptor, Dr E. MacIntosh. If the preceptor has concerns a mid-rotation interview will be conducted. Any questions regarding the rotation or concerns a student has while on the service can be directed towards the Service Chief, Dr. E. MacIntosh (EM) or any of the other attendings, Dr D. Wirtzfeld (DW), Dr R. Stimpson (RS), Dr. P. Hebbard (PH) or Dr. J. Rivard (JR)

Call Responsibilities

- Students are on-call in-hospital, to a maximum of 1-in-4.
- Students on Orange Surgery will be placed on call with the Trauma and Acute Surgical Care (Gold Surgery) service. Call will consist of consult calls and OR (not ward call).

First Day Instructions

The student is to page the Green Service senior resident the day before the start of the rotation through hospital paging at 787-2071.

WARD ACTIVITIES

Expectations

- Students are expected to attend morning ward rounds (Monday through Friday).
- Students are expected to participate in morning ward rounds under supervision of the resident staff. Ward load is relatively light for a surgical service as much of the surgery performed is short stay. This leaves ample time to attend clinics and surgery. Resident coverage rarely exceeds one or two individuals so the student can expect to participate as an active team member.
- Participate in the management of the inpatient ward under the supervision of the junior and senior surgery residents.

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- Times will be divided equally between the clinics and operating room to gain as wide as exposure as possible to surgical oncology.
- All outpatient clinics are located at Cancercare Manitoba (HSC & SBGH sites), with the exception of clinics at the Breast Health Centre (across from SBGH).
- Clinics are disease site-specific, thus providing an opportunity for the student to become comfortable with the history, examination and management of the clinic's particular focus (e.g. breast lump or thyroid nodule) within the time frame of the rotation.
- It is recommended that the medical student partition their time equally between the clinics and operating room to gain as wide an exposure as possible to Surgical Oncology.
- The student should try to assess one or two new patients in each of the disease sites and follow their course through the diagnosis, treatment planning and initial stages of management.
- The student is expected to attend multidisciplinary case rounds. Each clinic is affiliated with a weekly or monthly case conference where cases are reviewed with medical oncology, radiation oncology, pathology and radiology – a true multi-disciplinary approach to disease management and an excellent learning opportunity.

Monday to Friday

Ward rounds, ~ 0700, HSC GH5

Mondays

OR slate (HSC)

0730-1530

Tuesdays

Surgical Oncology clinic (MacCharles)

0900-1600 (DW) including Multidisciplinary Sarcoma clinic, 1300-1600

Breast Health Centre clinic

1300-1600 (EM)

Wednesdays

Surgery Grand Rounds

0745-0845

Melanoma clinic (MacCharles)

0900-1200 (EM, DW rotate)

Surgical Oncology clinic (MacCharles)

1300-1600 (RS)

OR slate (HSC)

0900-1530 (not every Wednesday)

Thursdays

Breast Health Centre clinic

0800-1630 (EM)

OR slate (HSC)

0730-1530 (not every Thursday)

Fridays

0730-end of scheduled teaching

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OR slate (HSC)

0730-1530 (1 or 2 rooms)

Surgical Oncology clinic (MacCharles)

0900-1600 (EM)

Multidisciplinary Case Rounds, CancerCare Manitoba, MacCharles site

- Breast case conference - Thursdays, 1630-1730(bi-monthly)
- Sarcoma rounds - last Wed of the month ,1200-1300
- Melanoma rounds - 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, .1200-1300