

Elective: Surgery - Vascular Surgery

OVERVIEW

Vascular surgery is a specialty focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of patients with peripheral vascular disease. Health Sciences Centre & St. Boniface Hospital service patients from Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. Patients are treated by surgical techniques, endovascular techniques and interventional radiological techniques. The vascular surgeons work very closely with the interventional radiologists.

INTRODUCTION

Location(s):

Health Sciences Centre

St. Boniface General Hospital

Attending Surgeons - HSC

Dr. April Boyd, Associate Professor

Dr. Joshua Koulack, Assistant Professor

Dr. Gregory Harding, Assistant Professor

Attending Staff - SBGH

Dr. Randy Guzman, Associate Professor

Section Head for Vascular Surgery

Contact Person:

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

- To obtain exposure to common and uncommon vascular problems through the ambulatory care, emergency, and ward consultation services.
- To observe patients undergoing surgical and interventional radiological procedures.
- To understand the surgical indications for treatment of vascular disease.
- To understand the surgical management of vascular disease.

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.

- To provide an understanding of the pathophysiology, clinical presentation, and management of common vascular problems including arterial, venous, and lymphatic disorders.
- The student should understand the management of / risk factor reduction for the following common conditions:

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- Abdominal aortic aneurysms.
- Carotid artery disease.
- Claudication.
- Chronic critical limb ischemia.
- Varicose veins.
- Chronic venous disease.
- Lymphedema.
- Understand and manage associated complex medical problems in patients with peripheral vascular disease.
- Vascular access in patients with chronic renal failure.

Specific Objectives

Clinical clerks will be able to:

- Demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of the common vascular problems.
- Develop skills in assessing patients with peripheral vascular disease.
- Be able to diagnose underlying medical problems in vascular patients.
- Examine patients with peripheral arterial occlusive disease and document signs of the disease, especially the presence or absence of pulses.
- Be able to use and interpret the results obtained from the use of the hand held Doppler
- Interpret angiographic investigations of the carotid arteries, upper and lower limbs.
- Interpret CT scans in patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms.

Documentation of Skills Achieved

- Use of Doppler ultrasound.
- Read angiograms.
- Read CT scans.
- Catheterize patients in the OR.
- Insert IVs.

Closing of surgical wounds with staples or suturing.

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

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- Disclose adverse events
- Discuss end-of-life care
- Discuss organ donation
- Addressing anger, confusion and misunderstanding using a patient centred approach

Collaborator

Physicians effectively work within a healthcare 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

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 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.

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- 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
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INFORMATION

Suggested Reading

Lawrence, *Essentials of General Surgery*, 3rd ed.

Chapters of particular relevance to this rotation include:

- Chapter 22 - Diseases Of The Vascular System

Cecil Essentials of Medicine, 6th ed.

Chapters of particular relevance to this rotation include:

- Chapter 13 - Vascular Diseases

Teaching Unit

The HSC Vascular Surgery ward and step-down unit are located on GA3.

The SBGH Vascular Surgery ward and step-down unit are located on 4A South.

Call Responsibilities

- The student will do call to the maximum of 1-in-4.
- Call can be either in-hospital or from home.
- The student will report any concerns to the vascular fellow or the on call attending staff.
- Students will be covered by a resident, fellow or attending staff at all times.

Evaluations

Please arrange an appointment with Dr Randy Guzman at SBGH or Dr. Greg Harding at HSC in the last few days of the rotation to go over evaluation.

Service evaluation by student is to be handed in at the end of your rotation

WARD ACTIVITIES

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Expectations

- Students should meet with their preceptor at the beginning of the rotation for orientation to the service and at the end of the rotation to receive their evaluation.
- The student will function under the supervision of the attending staff, vascular fellow and surgical residents.
- Students are expected to attend all ward rounds, ambulatory clinics, operations and academic half days.
- Students will be expected to accompany the fellow or resident to do consults in the emergency room.
- The service evaluation form should be completed and returned to the Surgical Education Office at the end of the student's rotation.

Rotation Details

Ward Rounds

Weekdays 0700-0730 - GA3

Weekends - By arrangement with the on-call resident or attending staff.

OR Days

OR assignments vary weekly. Most days have either local or general OR.

Vascular Surgery Clinics

Blue or Yellow Desk, HSC - Clinic days and attending staff vary weekly.

Vascular Surgery Rounds

0645-0845 HSC or SBGH (room location and hospital varies)

0645-0745 if Surgery Grand Rounds scheduled.

Format of Vascular Surgery Rounds

- Research review
- Mortality & Morbidity Meetings
- Case discussions
- Case presentations
- Presentation of topics by the attending staff or residents

Combined Ultrasound Rounds

Regularly scheduled during the Wednesday 0645-0845 time slot, location and hospital varies.