Title of Clerkship: General Surgery

Elective Type: Third year elective

Department: Surgery

Type of Elective: Clinical □ Non-Clinical/Research □ Basic Science □

Clerkship Site: University Medical Center

Course Number: SURG 760

Blocks available: All

Number of students per block: 1

Faculty: Various General Surgery Faculty

Elective Description/Requirements: The student will be integrated on a general surgery service and will be exposed to a wide variety of General Surgery conditions, including, but not limited to: cholecystitis, pancreatitis, colon disease, breast disease, hernias, appendicitis, traumatic injuries. Teaching will be conducted in both an inpatient and outpatient setting. Students will round on inpatients in the hospital, see patients in an ambulatory setting in clinic and participate in the operating room. Students will also take overnight call.

Length of Clerkship: 4 weeks

Links to Core Competencies

Educational Course Objectives: At the end of the rotation the student will be able to:

1. Be able to discuss the pathophysiology and treatment of common surgical problems

2. Perform a complete surgical history and physical examination

3. Accurately present patient information including: condition, progress, and testing results

4. Implement a plan for diagnostic evaluation

5. Demonstrate a basic understanding of therapeutic options

6. Write a complete and accurate daily progress note including interpretation of lab and radiology studies

7. Demonstrate the ability to participate in surgical procedures respecting sterile technique and universal precautions

8. Demonstrate knowledge and/or skill in basic suturing techniques

9. Explain the preoperative optimization process for those patients with elective procedures

Professionalism: UT/COM students will meet or exceed the institutional standards for professionalism as stated in the current Core Competencies and the current Educational Course Objectives for the Sponsoring Department.
Instructional Methods:
1. Ambulatory Care Experience
2. Inpatient Care Experience
3. Interpretation of lab data and radiological imaging studies
4. Small group instruction
5. Teaching rounds
6. Program Departmental Conferences
7. Direct patient interaction under faculty and/or resident supervision

Evaluation methods
1. Clinical competency evaluations
2. Faculty/Resident observation
3. Professional assessments
4. Attendance
5. Case write up

Prerequisites: Successful completion of years 1&2, passing USMLE Step 1, completion of Bridge Course

Clerkship Director: David Heidt, M.D.
Clerkship Coordinator: Claudia Davis
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Special Requirements: Participation in night call is recommended because many cases come in after hours. A call schedule may be arranged per individual faculty member.