Surgery Clerkship

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**IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR EACH ROTATION**

**Regional One Health** – Prior to assignment date, get an ID badge from Security located on the 1st floor Chandler (Carolyn Witt 545-7700). Go to TTC on your first day at 7 AM. Resident pager is 242-9870.

**Methodist University Surg Onc** – For a badge, go to the Medical Education Department, 251 S. Claybrook, 2nd floor. Please contact the chief resident.

**Methodist University Acute Care/Minimally Invasive Surgery** - For a badge, go to the Medical Education Department, 251 S. Claybrook, 2nd floor. Please contact the chief resident.

**Methodist Germantown Surg Onc** - For a badge, go to the Medical Education Department, 251 S. Claybrook, 2nd floor. Please contact the chief resident.

**VA** – See Colette Scott (523-8990, ext. 2123) room CW353, 3rd floor. Must complete mandatory online training.

**Baptist General Surgery** – Page the chief resident. Also, need to see Regina in MedEd for badges, etc. 226-1350.

**Baptist Minimally Invasive Surgery** - Page the chief resident. Also, need to see Regina in MedEd for badges, etc. 226-1350.

**Cardiothoracic (CT) Baptist** – Please contact Dr. Garrett (pager: 524-8430 or office: 747-1249). Also, need to see Regina in MedEd for badges, etc. 226-1350.

**Cardiothoracic (CT) VA** – See Colette Scott (523-8990, ext. 2123) room CW353, 3rd floor. Must complete mandatory online training. Then contact Dr. Darryl Weiman, pager 577-7288 (6524) or office 2123.

**Vascular Methodist** – Page resident (418-5599) or Dr. Rohrer (392-3195). For a badge, go to the Medical Education Department, 251 S. Claybrook, 2nd floor.

**Vascular VA** – See Colette Scott (523-8990, ext. 2123) room CW353, 3rd floor. Must complete mandatory online training. Then page Dr. Bridgette Ostrow, 577-7288 (1107), office 6975

**LeBonheur** – Page Peds fellow 269-0208. Also, contact Amber Stroupe at 287-6300 for a badge and handbook.

**Transplant** – Page Dr. Nezakatgoo (351-3998). For a badge, go to the Medical Education Department, 251 S. Claybrook, 2nd floor.

**Neurosurgery at Semmes-Murphey** – 6325 Humphreys Blvd. Go to the front desk where patients check-in and ask for Gail Woods. She will direct you to Dr. Michael.

OVERALL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The student will become familiar with a variety of surgical diseases and their diagnosis in order to recognize the need for surgical consultation

The student will learn how to prepare patients for surgery medically and psychologically

The student will learn how to manage patients postoperatively on the hospital ward and as outpatients.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – KNOWLEDGE

* Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of anatomy and pathophysiology of common surgical problems
* Understand the clinical thought process and workup of a patient with surgical disease including a differential diagnosis
* Understand the indications for, and the limitations of, essential diagnostic studies used to evaluate patients with surgical problems
* Demonstrate an understanding of surgical treatments, and medical alternatives
* To become familiar with common surgical procedures and know their expected outcomes and complications
* Be familiar with action, dosage and use of common pharmacologic agents used in surgery (analgesics, antibiotics, anticoagulants, sedatives)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – SKILLS

* Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of anatomy and pathophysiology of common surgical problems
* Understand the clinical thought process and workup of a patient with surgical disease including a differential diagnosis
* Understand the indications for, and the limitations of, essential diagnostic studies used to evaluate patients with surgical problems
* Demonstrate an understanding of surgical treatments, and medical alternatives
* To become familiar with common surgical procedures and know their expected outcomes and complications
* Be familiar with action, dosage and use of common pharmacologic agents used in surgery (analgesics, antibiotics, anticoagulants, sedatives)
* Understand and perform various basic procedures, such as:
  + universal precautions
  + scrubbing, gowning and gloving for the operating room
  + venipuncture
  + arterial puncture
  + insertion of urethral (Foley) catheter
  + insertion of nasogastric tube
  + suturing
  + knot tying
  + focused abdominal sonography for trauma (FAST)
  + removal of suture/staples and dressing changes
  + endotracheal intubation

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – ATTITUDES/COMMUNICATIONS

* Demonstrate effective communication with patient, families, ancillary staff and the surgical team
* Appreciate the collegial interaction necessary to work on the surgical service, in the OR, etc.
* Understand the scope of responsibility that a the surgeon assumes for the patient, the family and referring physicians and the amount of commitment necessary
* Recognize limitations by referrals and consultation with other services when appropriate
* Demonstrate an openness to receive constructive criticism
* Perform duties within a professional comportment
* Respect patient privacy information

**OVERVIEW OF THE CLERKSHIP**

The 8 week surgical clerkship is composed of a two week Regional One Health (ROH) rotation on trauma, along with a 2 week subspecialty rotation of pediatrics, cardiothoracic, vascular or transplant. The second month will be a month general surgery rotation at Baptist, Methodist University, Methodist Germantown, or the VA. Most of that time is spend on inpatients, but clinics are available and patients are expected to attend.

During the two week rotation at ROH, the student will either be assigned to the Trauma Surgery second year CCA consult resident OR the ER attending/residents in the Critical Care Assessment area. If working with the CCA consult resident, the hours will be either 7A to 7P or 7P to 7A. If working with the ER attending/resident resident, the hours will be either 8A to 8P or 8P to 8A. Call at the other hospitals will be “prn”. Let your attending residents know if you want to be called for cases.

There are several labs including suturing, knot tying and airway. There is an extensive interactive lecture series given by the faculty. In addition, students are expected to go to the Wednesday resident conferences including Grand Rounds and basic Science. These lectures and conferences are REQUIRED and take priority over clinical care.

**Recommended Texts/Reading list**

NMS

Textbook of Surgery-David Sabiston

Current Surgical Diagnosis and Treatment-Lawrence Way (additional resource)

**NON-TRAUMA RESPONSIBILITIES**

You are responsible for patient care on the floors. Each patient should be assigned to a student who will then follow the patient for his or her whole hospitalization. On your first day on the service, the group should obtain a list of patients and divide them evenly. New patients should be assigned as they are admitted/operated on, and will need a history and physical. Daily progress notes should be written for all patients.

Please notify a member of the team as soon as you note any problems or abnormalities with your patients--**don't wait** until the next scheduled rounds.

A student should scrub for his/her patients' surgical procedures. This is important for your education, will assist you in their post-op care -- plus, it's the most exciting part of surgical care.

Follow patients in the ICU.

TRAUMA RESPONSIBILITIES

The third year students rotate on trauma for two weeks. They will spend one week with the trauma CCA consult resident (pager 242-9870). The other week will be spent with the CCA ER attending and resident. Regardless, trauma pagers should be obtained from Ms Bishop. Responsibilities will be as follows:

**CCA TRAUMA CONSULT**

The student should report to the TTC at 7 AM if covering the 12 hour day shift. Page the Consult Resident when arriving at 7PM if covering the 12 hour night shift. The night shift student should finish the day with turnover rounds in the TTC. Students are still responsible for going to all conferences and labs.

1. Come to all Shock Trauma 1’s and perform tasks such as

a. cut off clothes

1. draw femoral vein VBG’s and blood
2. start IV’s
3. insert Foley catheters
4. insert NG and/or OG tubes
5. perform and interpret FAST exam
6. put in chest tubes (with significant supervision)
7. apply splints (in conjunction with orthopedics)
8. interpret labs and radiographs
9. accompany critically ill patients to CT/angio with CCA resident
10. accompany patients to the OR (trauma surgery, but may scrub on subspecialty if wanted)

2. Evaluate trauma consults at CCA

a. perform and document additional history and physical in conjunction with trauma CCA resident

1. assist in ordering and evaluate any further labs and radiographs
2. place chest tubes, NG/OG tubes, arterial lines, foley catheters, IV’s when necessary and appropriate
3. evaluate and treat wounds (suture)
4. Accompany patients to the operating room.
5. Follow patient in CCA that are admitted to the trauma service without a bed yet available.

**CCA ER**

The student should report to the CCA at 8 AM if covering the 12 hour day shift, and at 8 PM if covering the 12 hour night shift. These students do not go to turnover rounds. They will be mentored by the ER attendings and residents. Students are still responsible for going to all conferences and labs.

1. Come to all Shock Trauma 2’s and perform tasks such as

a. cut off clothes

b. draw femoral vein VBG’s and blood

c. start IV’s

d. insert Foley catheters

e. insert NG and/or OG tubes

f. perform and interpret FAST exam

g. put in chest tube

h. apply splints (in conjunction with orthopedics)s (with significant supervision)

i. interpret labs and radiographs

j. accompany patients to the OR (trauma surgery, but may scrub on subspecialty if wanted)

2. Evaluate patients at CCA

a. perform and document history and physical

b. order appropriate labs and radiographs

c. evaluate labs and radiographs

d. evaluate and treat wounds (suture) with ER docs or suture techs

e. apply splints (in conjunction with orthopedics)

(CRITERIA SHOCK TRAUMA 1 - HR > 130 (> 110 for geriatric patients), HR < 50, SBP < 90 (< 100 for geriatric patients), airway compromise, all intubated patients, GCS <= 12, penetrating injury to head, neck, chest, torso, extremity trauma / amputation proximal to knees/elbows or if tourniquet is in place. Positive FAST, neurologic deficit or suspected spinal cord injury, pelvic fx, or hip dislocation, receiving blood to maintain vital signs, CCA physician judgment)

( CRITERIA SHOCK TRAUMA 2 - significant MOI (fall >10 feet, pedestrian or cyclist struck, MCC, rollover MVC), significant penetrating wound to extremity, suspected multiple fractures or open fractures, altered mental status with trauma, pregnancy > 20 weeks without other factors above, femur fracture, known TBI on anticoagulation, CCA Physician judgment)

The third year students are not orderlies or nurse substitutes. They are there to learn how to manage trauma patients, not push stretchers or administer medications. However, if trauma is extremely busy, it is understood that ANYONE may need to perform tasks that are not usually in their job description.

**GRADING**

**CLINICAL 45%**

Each student is assessed by the surgical faculty and residents based upon patient management, responsibility, fund of knowledge, participation, and reliability. Students should be able to form a differential diagnosis and initiate basic workup and treatment. The professional code is also used as an assessment tool. The student **must** receive a passing grade in order to pass the course. A copy of the final evaluation on New Innovations is attached.

**WRITTEN EXAM 40%**

A shelf exam from the National Board of Medical Examiners will be administered only at the time and date listed. If you fail the test, you will receive an R (retake) and you must retake it after meeting with the clerkship Director UNLESS you also fail the oral exam (see below). If you fail the written test a second time, you will receive a grade of "F" for the clerkship. You must achieve a raw score of 81 to receive an “A” for the clerkship. This new requirement has been recommended by the National Board of Medical Examiners and is already in place at most medical schools across the country. The score was chosen at the low end of the range recommended by NBME.

**ORAL EXAM 15%**

A faculty and/or a senior surgical resident will present 2 case studies for a focused history, physical, appropriate differential diagnosis, workup and management. If you fail the oral exam, further action will depend on the results of the written exam. If you fail both the written and the oral exams, you will receive an "F" for the course. If you pass the written test, you will be able to retake the oral exam with a different faculty member. Failing the orals twice will result in a final grade no higher than a “B”. The orals are scored by two methods. First, the examiner gives a numeric score based on their subjective impression of the student’s ability to explain a focused history, physical, differential, workup and treatment. The examiners also check off a scoring rubric to give a more objective score (similar to OSCE and the CS exams). These two scores are averaged.

Mid-month feedback is required; failure to return will result in an incomplete.  Completion of NG/FAST checklist card, hours and diagnoses logs is required; failure to complete this will result in an incomplete.  Although the Hall S. Tacket evaluation is not required, it is highly encouraged and is very useful feedback for the rotation. Please complete it through Qualtrics.

**EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES**

ACUTE PANCREATITIS

Discuss the pathophysiology and etiologies of acute pancreatitis

What is the differential diagnosis of acute pancreatitis?

What are the important components of treatment?

Discuss pseudocyst formation and treatment.

What are the indications for surgical intervention in this disease?

Discuss hemorrhagic pancreatitis and Ransom's criteria.

APPENDICITIS

Discuss the pathophysiology and etiologies of acute appendicitis.

What is the differential diagnosis of acute appendicitis?

What are the important components of treatment?

What are the differences between somatic and visceral pain?

What is direct/indirect rebound, psoas, and Rovsing's sign?

BREAST CANCER

What is the differential diagnosis of a breast lump?

What are the important questions/risk factors in the history and physical?

What is the role of mammography/biopsy in a breast lump?

What are the treatment modalities in breast cancer?

What is the role of chemotherapy and radiotherapy in this disease?

GASTRIC ULCER

Pathophysiologically, how does gastric differ from duodenal ulcer?

Describe the medical management of gastric ulcer.

What are the indications for surgery for gastric ulcer?

What is the typical location for gastric ulcer and gastric cancer?

ANORECTAL DISEASE

Describe the symptoms, signs, diagnosis, treatment, and etiology of the following:

Hemorrhoids

Anal fissure

Pilonidal abscess

Perirectal abscess/fistula

JAUNDICE

Explain the pathophysiology of jaundice.

Discuss the interpretation of liver function tests.

Describe the radiology of liver diseases and jaundice.

Tell how to perform a workup for obstructive or cellular jaundice.

COLON CANCER

What is the difference in presentation between left and right sided colon cancer?

What is the significance of villous and adenomatous polyps to cancer?

Describe the Dukes' Classification and prognosis.

How does colon cancer spread? What operation is done for cecal cancer? sigmoid cancer?

What is the role of chemotherapy and radiotherapy in colon cancer?

PULMONARY INFECTIONS

Describe the physiologic mechanisms involved in movement of fluid from the parietal to the visceral pleura and explain the pathologic and physiologic changes that result in excessive accumulation of pleural fluid.

List the stages of empyema formation.

Correlate the type of surgical treatment of empyema with the stage of disease.

Contrast medical versus surgical infection utilizing pneumonia and empyema as an example.

ESOPHAGUS

Describe the basic anatomy and functional physiology of the esophagus.

Explain the pathophysiology of esophageal motor disorders.

Correlate esophageal symptoms with their abnormal physiologic state.

Explain the medical and surgical treatment of motor disorders.

Describe the basic defense mechanisms of the esophagus that prevent abnormal reflux.

Discuss the physiologic bases for medical and surgical treatments of reflux disease of the esophagus.

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

Contrast mucosal colitis with transmural colitis.

Discuss the diagnosis and treatment of fulminating colitis.

Compare the alternatives in the surgical treatment of mucosal colitis.

Discuss the diagnosis and treatment of small bowel Crohn's Disease.

Contrast the medical treatment of ulcerative colitis with that of Crohn's.

VENOUS DISEASE

Define DVT and tell why it occurs in the surgical patient.

Relate pathophysiology to symptoms of DVT/PE.

Identify high-risk patient categories.

Relate etiology to prevention.

Describe the diagnostic methodology used for venous disease, DVT, and PE.

Describe and justify the therapies currently used for these conditions.

PORTAL HYPERTENSION

Name the most common cause of portal hypertension in the USA.

Describe the pathophysiology of portal hypertension.

List the clinical manifestations of portal hypertension.

Tell how you would manage a patient with variceal bleeding.

Describe the difference between a total and a selective shunt.

Describe the Child's classification of functional hepatic reserve.

Explain the medical and surgical treatment of ascites.

BURNS

Clinically differentiate first, second, and third degree burns.

Describe fluid replacement for significant burns.

What is the significance of myoglobinuria and how is it treated?

What is the indication for escharotomy?

Describe signs and symptoms of an airway burn.

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

Tell how to perform a differential diagnosis of an abdominal mass.

Tell how to perform a diagnostic workup.

Describe these prognostic factors:

Wilms Tumor

Neuroblastoma

Hepatoblastoma

SURGICAL INFECTIONS

Importance of host, bacterial colonization, and nutritional media for producing surgical infections.

Name those risk factors that are relatively immunosuppressive and predispose a patient toward sepsis.

Explain the microbiology of surgical infection.

List and justify the principles of prophylactic use of antibiotics.

Describe the rationale for empiric antibiotic therapy in the management of surgical sepsis.

The importance of surgical debridement and abscess drainage in the management of surgical sepsis.

SEPSIS/SEPTIC SHOCK

Relate pulmonary artery occlusion pressure to left ventricular and diastolic volume.

Tell how septic shock changes cardiac output and systemic vascular resistance.

Define and differentiate "infection," "sepsis," and "septic shock."

List and define the types of shock.

Describe and justify the therapy for septic shock.

PEPTIC ULCER DISEASE

List the indications for surgical treatment.

Describe the alternatives in surgical treatment.

Explain the expected recurrences/complications of surgical treatment.

Explain the physiological bases for the various tyupes of surgical treatment.

TRAUMA AND SHOCK

Be able to describe the 1° and 2· assessment.

Know the signs, symptoms, and Rx for immediate life threatening injuries

Cardiac tamponade

Tension pneumothorax

Ruptured aorta

Open pneumothorax

Be able to discuss the 4 types of shock and resuscitation for each

Hypovolemic

Cardiogenic

Neurogenic

Septic

Be able to describe the 4 classes of hemorrhagic shock.

SURGICAL NUTRITION

Be able to discuss the metabolism of stress and starvation.

Understand the following principles:

Protein needs for stressed and/or malnourished patients

Calorie:nitrogen ratio

Glucose/fat requirements

Determining nutrition prescriptions for patients

Refeeding syndrome

Discuss the benefits of enteral versus parenteral feeding.

PERIPHERAL VASCULAR DISEASE

Appreciate history of vascular surgery.

Understand signs and symptoms that suggest peripheral arterial disease (both obstructive and aneurysmal).

Understand the noninvasive evaluation of the vascular patient.

Understand the basic operative procedures in peripheral vascular surgery.

ACQUIRED HEART DISEASE

Understand the pathophysiology of acquired heart disease, which mnay lead to mechanical complications, which require surgery.

Know the pathophysiology of cardiac tamponade, its signs and diagnosis by:

Physical examination

Echocardiography

Intracardiac pressure measurements

Know the techniques for relief of cardiac tamponade:

Outside the hospital

In the emergency department

Definitively

Know the general "indications for surgery" and "risk: benefit ratios" for valvular and atherosclerotic heart disease and cardiac transplantation.

CUTANEOUS LESIONS

Be able to recognize and describe the natural history for the skin keratoses including actinic keratoses, seborrheic keratoses, and keratoacanthoma.

Describe the appearance, natural history, and management of cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas and basal cell carcinomas.

Describe the appearance of the warning signs for melanoma; understand the histological staging of melanoma and its significance for prognosis; outline the surgical management of melanoma.

TRANSPLANTATION

Understand the success rate of the major solid organ transplants.

Explain the facts regarding brain death and the associated pathophysiological abnormalities.

Explain the facts regarding the process of identification and consent for organ donation.

Explain the clinical and technical variations in the anatomy of organs that would affect procurement procedures.

Explain the long-term outcome of transplantation procedures.

Understanding of basic mechanisms of action of immunosuppressants.

HERNIA

Understand the embryology, anatomy and pathophysiology of hernia development.

Understand the rationale for the repair of inguinal and ventral hernias.

Be able to formulate a differential diagnosis of a groin or scrotal mass.

Be able to discuss the meaning of direct vs. indirect hernias and incarceration vs. strangulation.

Be familiar with the most common types of hernia repairs and the etiology of recurrences.

WOUND HEALING

Principles of primary wound closure/suturing to optimize healing/wound strength and minimize scar.

Contraindications to wound closure.

Name 3 disease states which automatically result in increased wound healing complications and why.

What amount of bacteria in a wound (to the nearest log of 10) produces wound infection?

**SURGICAL SKILLS (MUST BE PERFORMED ON PATIENTS NOT MANNEQUINS)**

Required Skills

|  |
| --- |
| Draw Blood |
| Insert IV |
| Insert NG  Perform and Interpret ABG |
| Insert Foley |
| Good Abdominal History, Exam |
| Read Chest x-ray |
| Read abdominal x-ray |
| Read CT - basic  Comprehensive breast exam |
| Comprehensive vascular exam (include  ABI) |
| Comprehensive rectal exam (include  prostate) |
| Airway management  Oral/nasal airway  Orotracheal intubation  Focused abdominal ultrasound for trauma |

Tie knots/suture simple lacerations

|  |
| --- |
| Scrub, gown, and glove |
| Sterile technique |
| Universal precautions  Write SOAP notes |
| Remove drains, change dressings |

Removal sutures, staples

Optional

|  |
| --- |
| Chest tube insertion |
| Central line insertion |
| Bronchoscopy |

**POLICIES (see links)**

Professional Behavior/Code of conduct

Work hours

Mistreatment

ROH lockers and trauma beepers

Scrubs

Accessing VA computers

Security

Shuttle service

Inclement weather

Injuries and exposure to blood and body fluids

Duty hours/ patient logs

Excused absences/ attendence

Poster presentations

Religious

Illness

Lockers/pagers

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT**

The clinical rotations in the third year of medical school place demands and requirements on the students that go significantly above and beyond academic achievement as measured by performance on tests and by the ability to field questions learned through didactic instruction and reading. The student also is accountable for his or her behavior in each of the following areas:

• Professional and Ethical Conduct

The welfare of patients and their families is of foremost concern. Students must show respect and courtesy for patients and their families, even under difficult situations such as being challenged or provoked. Students must safeguard their patients' confidentiality. There are to be no casual communications regarding patients in public places, such as hallways, elevators, cafeterias, gyms, etc.

• Punctuality, Responsibility and Reliability

Students are expected to be available and present for all scheduled clerkship activities. **Any absences must be approved by the clerkship director in advance**. Make-up assignments will be determined by the clerkship director; absences due to illness may require a physician's statement. Chronic tardiness is unacceptable. Students are expected to conform to the prevailing schedule at the sites where they are assigned for their clinical instruction.

• Getting Along With Other Members of The Medical Team

Good relationships with nurses, aides, ward clerks, security personnel, and anyone else involved in the care of the patient are absolutely essential. Students are expected to be courteous to all medical staff at the sites where they are assigned for their clinical instruction.

• Getting Along With Staff

Students need to be polite and respectful to people other than the patients, faculty and residents, and hospital employees. Much of the daily work in keeping a clerkship going falls on the shoulders of administrative assistants, secretaries, receptionists, and other staff. Students are expected to be considerate of and courteous to all of these employees.

• Getting Along With Peers

Students are expected to have pleasant working relationships with their fellow students. This includes an equitable sharing of the workload and helping and supporting each other.

If the clerkship director receives consistent complaints about a student in any of these areas, the student's grade may be affected. Serious documented problems with unprofessional or unethical behavior, in the judgment of the clerkship director, may result in a failing grade even if the student has passed the written or oral examinations and has otherwise satisfactory clinical ratings. Also, consistent or serious complaints about unprofessional or unethical behavior may be reflected in the Dean's Letter.

There may be times when any student has a personal problem or a personality conflict that impairs his or her ability to function properly on the clerkship. It is the student's responsibility to promptly notify the clerkship director when this first occurs and not wait until after the fact.

**Code of Professional Conduct**

The University of Tennessee medical community believes that professionals gain their credibility by their commitment to society. As a professional group, we recognize our obligation to our patients, colleagues, community, families, and ourselves. Realizing that it is a privilege and an honor to be a medical professional, we the students, residents, fellows, and faculty of the UT Memphis College of Medicine embrace the following ideals:

1. Patient welfare is our primary concern, for only by commitment do we justify the trust placed in us by patients and the community at large. Although we hold the acquisition of knowledge and the development of technical skills essential to patient care, we shall strive to balance the science with the art of medicine by maintaining respect and compassion for the dignity of all patients. Each patient shall receive our best efforts regardless of personal feelings or biases. Desires for social or economic gain shall not affect the honesty and integrity with which we deal with patients. Nor shall the pressures placed upon the members of our profession compromise the quality of care we provide.
2. Relationships with our colleagues are an exceedingly important part of professional conduct. Our interactions with colleagues provide us a sense of support, trust, and sharing. As members of a professional community, we shall be aware that our personal conduct reflects upon others of that community. Professionalism includes being respectful in our communications and behavior toward colleagues and others. We shall avoid comments and actions that might reasonably be perceived as offensive or demeaning by others. This applies also to communications on web-based social media and other electronic media.
3. We shall be willing to share our knowledge and expertise with colleagues and remain open to their advice and criticism. We shall know our own limitations and ask for advice when needed. We shall fulfill our own responsibility and, in the spirit of professional cooperation, accommodate a colleague if our assistance is requested. We shall be sensitive to the physical and emotional weaknesses of a colleague and shall lend support in time of need. Further, our responsibility to patient care implies identification of colleagues whose ability to provide care is impaired. This must be followed by our full support toward the rehabilitation of those colleagues, and their reintegration into the professional community.
4. Integrating personal growth into our professional development is essential to our commitment to medicine. To this end, we shall be attentive to our needs for physical, spiritual, and emotional well being. We shall allow time for personal and family relations which enrich our lives and promote self knowledge. Attention to personal maturation, family commitments and professional growth represent a continuing challenge throughout our career.
5. As medical professional, we realize that we share with all citizens certain civic duties. We shall strive to be responsible citizens. Our professional status shall not be used as a means to power and control. Rather, we seek to offer informed and compassionate leadership.

**MEDICAL STUDENT WORK HOURS POLICY**

To address the time commitment required of medical students during clinical rotations and taking into account the effects of fatigue and sleep deprivation on learning, clinical activities, student health and safety, and patient safety, the College of Medicine has adopted the following policy.

* Duty hours will be limited to 80 hours per week averaged over a four-week period, inclusive of all in-house call and patient care activities. This does not include lectures, labs and conferences.
* Continuous on-site duty, including in-house call, will not exceed 30 consecutive hours. Students may remain on duty additional hours to participate in transferring care of patients, conducting outpatient clinics, maintaining continuity of medical and surgical care, and attending required didactic activities.
* Students will be provided with one day in seven free from all educational and clinical responsibilities, averaged over a rotation, inclusive of call. One day is defined as one continuous 24-hour period free from all clinical, didactic, and administrative activities.
* Students should be provided with a 10 hour period after in-house call during which they are free from all patient care activities.

Approved by the Committee on Undergraduate Medical Education, August 13, 2007.

**Student Mistreatment**

The policy on student mistreatment has three main components: a statement of College of Medicine standards of behavior with regard to mistreatment, a description of methods used in the ongoing education of the college community concerning the standards of behavior and the process by which they are upheld, and a description of the College of Medicine process for responding to allegations of mistreatment. The statement of College of Medicine standards of behavior with regard to mistreatment is as follows: The University of Tennessee College of Medicine has a responsibility to foster in medical students, postgraduate trainees, faculty, and other staff the development of professional and collegial attitudes needed to provide caring and compassionate health care. To nurture these attitudes and promote an effective learning environment, an atmosphere of mutual respect and collegiality among teachers and students is essential. While such an environment is extremely important to the educational mission of the College of Medicine, the diversity of members of the academic community, combined with the intensity of interactions that occur in the health care setting may lead to incidents of inappropriate behavior or mistreatment. The victims and perpetrators of such behavior might include students, preclinical and clinical faculty, fellows, residents, nurses, and other staff. Examples of mistreatment include: sexual harassment; discrimination based on race, gender, religion, ethnic background, sexual orientation, handicapped condition, or age; and purposeful humiliation, verbal abuse, threats, or other psychological punishment. Such actions are contrary to the spirit of learning, violate the trust between teacher and learner, and will not be tolerated by the College of Medicine. To promote an environment respectful of all individuals, the College of Medicine will provide ongoing education to students, residents, fellows, faculty, and other staff emphasizing the importance of professional and collegial attitudes and behavior. Also, the college will make available a readily accessible neutral party (called a mediator) whom students may approach if they believe they have been mistreated. A process has been established to seek reconciliation between the parties in cases of alleged mistreatment. This process seeks to protect the accuser from retaliation and to protect the rights of all parties involved in a complaint. Through these efforts, the college will maintain an atmosphere essential to its educational mission in the training of physicians. To mistreat is to treat in a harmful, injurious, or offensive way.

For example:

1. to speak insultingly or unjustifiably harshly to or about a person
2. to belittle or humiliate
3. to threaten with physical harm
4. to physically attack (e.g., hit, slap, kick)
5. to require to perform personal services (e.g., shopping, baby-sitting)
6. to threaten with a lower grade for reasons other than course/clinical performance.

Individuals wishing to discuss possible violations of these policies should contact the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs at (901) 448-5684. All inquiries will be held in strict confidence. Accusations of racial or gender discrimination or harassment are referred to the UTHSC Affirmative Affairs Director. Disputes over grades are handled in accordance with College of Medicine academic policies. Additional information regarding the Mistreatment Policy and procedures can be found on the Student Affairs website: <http://www.uthsc.edu/Medicine/StudentAffairs/>

**What should one do if mistreatment or abuse occurs?**

1. When an allegation of mistreatment occurs, the parties directly involved should first try to resolve the matter themselves. Many incidents are amenable to resolution. In some situations, however, this informal approach might be hindered by reluctance of the accuser to approach the accused. In such cases, a more formal alternative process is available for resolving the matter through the “Mediator.”

The role of the mediator, as the name implies, is to mediate between the conflicting parties and strive for reconciliation. It is anticipated that the mediator’s assistance will result in the resolution of most cases brought to her/his attention. If a reasonable effort on behalf of the Mediator does not yield a solution or the accuser or the accused is not satisfied with the results obtained through the Mediator’s efforts, the Mediator may contact the Conflict-Resolution Council to help resolve the case.

1. The Conflict-Resolution Council will assess the evidence as objectively as possible, be fair in its deliberations, and protect the rights of the accused and accuser. It is the function of this council to decide whether the matter should be brought to the attention of the Dean.
2. When it is the Dean’s judgment that a violation of university policy has occurred, the accused will be put on notice that he/she has violated such policy, and appropriate action will be taken.

**Confidentiality and Protection from Retaliation**

Every effort will be made to protect alleged victims of mistreatment from retaliation if they seek redress. Although it is impossible to guarantee freedom from retaliation, it is possible to take steps to try to prevent it and to set up a process for responding to it. To help prevent retaliation, those who are accused of mistreatment will be informed that retaliation is regarded as a form of mistreatment. Accusations that retaliation has occurred will be handled in the same manner as accusations concerning other forms of mistreatment, using the mediator and council if needed.

**RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION POLICY**

**POLICY:** The University of Tennessee Health Science Center acknowledges the diversity of its students and respects the rights of students to observe their religious beliefs and practices. UTHSC will endeavor to provide reasonable accommodations relating to religious beliefs and practices in response to a formal written student request. However, accommodations cannot be guaranteed in instances where such would create an undue burden on faculty, a disproportionate negative effect on other students who are participating in the scheduled educational activity, or jeopardize patient care.

**PROCEDURE**: Students beginning new programs or courses of study in a particular college will be advised by that college as to college-, program- or course-specific procedures that should be followed to obtain an accommodation for religious practices or observances. Students are encouraged to be proactive in reviewing college-, program- and course-specific assignments/activities in advance of matriculation/registration to determine whether these requirements might in some way conflict with their religious beliefs, practices or observances. Should such conflicts be in evidence, students should discuss possible options with the appropriate college official or faculty member. Reasonable accommodations may not be feasible in instances where there is a direct and insurmountable conflict between religious beliefs or observances and requirements of a given program.

It is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements with the course instructor or clerkship/experiential director as soon as possible, but no less than 30 days in advance of the religious holiday during which the student is requesting to be absent. It is also the student’s responsibility to meet all course obligations. Such requests are required for any and all educational activities scheduled for the date(s) in question, e.g. classroom exercises, laboratory assignments, exams, clinical/experiential assignments, etc. Finally, students are obligated to abide by the policies and procedures on religious practices and observances of any given patient-care institution (i.e., hospital, clinical setting) in which they are completing a portion of their educational experience. If a potential conflict between a student’s religious beliefs, practices or observations and institutional policy is identified, the student is to bring such to the attention of the clerkship/experiential director as soon as possible.

It is the course instructor or clerkship/experiential director’s responsibility to negotiate with a student the parameters of reasonable accommodations. The accommodations should be no more difficult than the originally scheduled activity or assignment. Instructors or experiential directors are not obligated to provide materials or experiences to students that would not normally be provided to all other students. In the event a student and instructor or clerkship/experiential director cannot reach an agreement regarding reasonable accommodations, the student may request a review of the request by a designated college official. The decision of the designated college official will be final.

**ROH LOCKERS AND TRAUMA BEEPERS**

Please do not leave any valuables in any unprotected area in ANY hospital, which includes doctors lounges, etc.

Lockers are available in ROH in the Trauma Training Center on the ground floor of the Jefferson building. Please remove your lock when your rotation has finished.

Beepers are available for the students at ROH and can be obtained from Courtney Bishop, in room 214, 910 Madison.Students will share between night and day shift. DO NOT LEAVE PAGERS SOMEWHERE TO BE PICKED UP.

The pagers must be checked out and returned to Ms Bishop, not turned over to the next team.

Failure to return pagers to Ms Bishop will result in a fine of $50.00 (donated to the ROH Foundation).

If I cannot easily determine who lost the pager, each student who was sharing it will be assessed a $50.00 fine.

**SCRUBS**

After you receive a Regional One Health ID badge, please do the following to receive scrubs:

* Go to ROH intranet
* Under departmental, select Laundry Services
* Then complete the scrub request
* Be sure to use [cbishop@uthsc.edu](mailto:cbishop@uthsc.edu) as the email address. NOT your own.

If you have problems with your access code, please contact Brenda Wells at 901-545-7990.

Requirements for accessing VA computers:

VA computers can be accessed by badge only, and most of the units are also transitioning to PIV cards for access. This means any resident, student, or associated health trainee wanting to participate in patient care must have a fully functioning badge (called a PIV badge) and PIN (four or six digit personal identification number). This requirement comes from Homeland Security, and there is nothing the local VA can do about it. **Here is what you need to do:**

1. **If you already have a badge,** please drop by the VA and make sure your badge works **BEFORE** your rotation starts. If you have forgotten your PIN, which is required for badge use, drop by Police Service to reset your PIN.
2. **If you do not have a badge and have been fingerprinted within the last 120 days** at the VA, contact your badge sponsor (see sponsor list below) to see if your badge is ready to be picked up. Then pick your badge up from Police Service and make sure it works for computer access.
3. **If you do not have a badge and have not been fingerprinted within the last 120 days,** contact your sponsor and come to Police Service for your fingerprints. You are encouraged to **walk in** during the new extended hours of 6-8 a.m. and 4-7 p.m. Monday - Friday and 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturday. You must bring two forms of identification with you such as birth certificate, SS number, passport or state driver’s license. One of these should be a picture ID. Check with your sponsor if you are unsure if your IDs meet requirements. Ask when to return for your badge.
4. For any problems that may arise - and these are likely- contact Elston Howard at 523-8990 Extension 7395 or your sponsor. Given the urgency of the situation, watch for further updates in the overall process as we attempt to respond to this directive.

We apologize for this sudden, unexpected requirement. Email me for problems or complaints.

Jim Lewis, MD

Associate Chief of Staff for Education

901-523-8990 Extension 7819

[James.Lewis319e9a@va.gov](mailto:James.Lewis319e9a@va.gov)

Sponsors

Education Elston Howard 577-7395 [Elston.Howard@va.gov](mailto:Elston.Howard@va.gov)

Pamela Armstrong 523-8990 5045 [Pamela.Armstrong2@va.gov](mailto:Pamela.Armstrong2@va.gov)

Surgery Colette Scott 523-8990 2123 [Colette.Scott@va.gov](mailto:Colette.Scott@va.gov)

**OVERNIGHT SHUTTLE SERVICE**

Shuttle available for medical students on call.

**The GME shuttle is available from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am seven days a week** to transport residents, medical students, and COM faculty within the Medical Center which includes the Pauline Garage, the MED, VA, Lebonheur, and Methodist University.

There will be a minivan that is stationed outside of the Pauline Garage.  When exiting the garage, please show your UT ID, and the driver will take you to one of the four hospitals.  **When you need to be picked up and taken to the garage or another hospital, call Campus Police at 448-4444 and state that you are requesting the GME Shuttle.**  You must be at one of the designated areas listed at the bottom of the email.  The driver will come to the location you specified, check  your ID, and then take you back to the garage or other hospital location.  Three guards were hired for the shuttle, and they will be dressed in uniform with UT logos.  The names of the drivers are Marilyn Ivory, LaShone McLemore, and Nocomis Jones.

This shuttle is separate from the escort service that is provided by Campus Police.

**Predetermined Pickup Locations:**

Pauline Garage Entrance

Lebonheur-Main Entrance on Dunlap and Emergency Room Entrance

MED-Emergency Room Entrance and Rout Delivery Entrance

VA-Main Entrance and Emergency Room Entrance

Methodist University-Emergency Room Entrance

**Clerkship Inclement Weather Policy**

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The administration of each campus decides when that campus is closed due to inclement weather.

Closure indicates that classes and scheduled meetings are cancelled.

**In the event that the school is closed, faculty and students with clinical responsibilities are professionally obligated to provide that care even during inclement weather. Students on clinical services are expected to continue to provide care for their patients, provided traveling would not place the student at serious risk of injury.**

Students should consult with their resident and physician supervisors to determine the risks/benefits involving travel during these periods.Students who are unable to travel to the rotation sites should contact the clerkship director and the team as soon as possible to advise them of the individual situation and whether the student could reach the site later in the day.

**INJURIES & EXPOSURES TO BLOOD/BODY FLUIDS**

**What should I do if I am exposed?**

If you are exposed to someone's blood, body fluids or other potentially infectious materials -- DO NOT IGNORE THIS EXPOSURE!!

Here are the steps you should take:

1. Take appropriate first aid measures (clean wound with soap and water; flush mucous membranes with water/saline for 15 minutes)
2. Get the name, medical record number and location of exposure source
3. Notify your supervisor/preceptor so he/she can complete the Tennessee First Report of Injury and mail it to Risk Management within 48 hours
4. Report, in person, to University Health Services ® 910 Madison Ave, Suite 922.
5. If exposure occurs after hours, call 901-448-5630 to get the provider on call. It is very important that you are seen at University Health Services if possible, to prevent any charges from other facilities.

**Policy on Excused Absences**

There may be various reasons for a student to be absent from a clerkship. These may include:

A. Funerals- Students may be excused for the death of immediate family only. It will be at the discretion of the CD as to what “immediate” means, how much time will be given off, how much needs to be made up and when.

B. Doctors’ appointments- Requests for time off for doctors’ appointments should be approved through the CD as soon as possible, preferable 30 days before start of the rotation. The appointments must be scheduled at a time that is least disruptive to patient care or education, should not be elective or preventative (These should be scheduled before and after the M-3 year) and will require proof of attendance.

C. Weddings- Students may be excused for the weddings of immediate family only (again as determined by and at the discretion of the CD.) Students should submit a request in writing for permission to be absent from the course no less than 30 days before the start of the clerkship. If approved, time will be given off only for out of town weddings and only Friday afternoons and the following weekend. Students may request absence for only 1 wedding in the M-3 year. If necessary, the student may need to take a 2-week option block to accommodate other weddings. At orientation to med school, students will be informed that there are no vacations in M-3 year, allowing students, family and friends to plan accordingly.

D. Step II CK/CS- Students must complete all CORE M-3 clerkships before taking the Step II CK. Students may not take time out of required M-4 rotations/JI to take Step II CK/CS. Students should submit a request in writing for permission to be absent from an elective at least 30 days prior to

the beginning of the rotation.

Permission must be obtained from the CD and faculty member in charge of the elective.

E. Residency Interviews- Students may not be excused for traveling for interviews in required CORE rotations/JI’s. Students should submit a request in writing for permission to be absent from an elective at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the rotation. Permission must be obtained from the CD and faculty member in charge of the elective.

We understand that things come up such as Dr's appointments, teacher parent conferences, etc. In addition, there are occasions in which the student would like to stay in the OR for an interesting/rare case and skip other required conferences. In order for this to happen, the student must contact the Clerkship Director or the Assistant Clerkship Director, preferably by text, but also email or phone call (please identify yourself on your text message). The answer is "no" up until the time that the student receives an answer of "yes" (which frequently happens). Failure to do this will at minimum result in points taken from the students grade, but may include failure of the course.

**POlicy on excused absences for presentationS**

Students are both encouraged and required to take part in scholarly projects including research, patient safety/quality improvement, or in community and global population health. Many of our students are involved in ongoing research projects and many be invited to present their work at regional or national meetings. The clerkship directors wish to encourage scholarly activity and will work with student to allow them to present their work with as little impact on patient care and team responsibilities as possible.

A. Students should submit a request in writing for permission to be absent from the course for the purpose of presenting scholarly work.

B. The invitation to present the work should be included with the request for an excused absence.

C. The request should be submitted as soon as the student receives the invitation to present at the meeting.

D. Clerkship Directors may refuse the request for time off if it is made less than 30 days before the requested excused absence.