Updated June 29, 2015

Surgical Oncology Service
Goals and Objectives
(2015 - 2016)

Residents receive a concentrated experience in the management of malignancies including colorectal, upper GI, pancreatic, biliary, hepatic, melanoma, sarcoma and breast. The service is combined with the General Thoracic Service. Benign breast diseases are also treated. **PGY-I, III, IV & V** are assigned to this service. The PG-IV resident is primarily responsible for the General Thoracic portion of the service.

1) Patient Care

Goals: Surgical residents will provide compassionate, effective and appropriate care for all patients to which they are assigned.

PGY-I: **Objectives**

- Perform a history and physical exam on patient with cancer and benign breast diseases.
- Formulate a differential diagnosis for cancer.
- Excise lesions of the skin and breast; perform lymph node and sentinel node biopsies; perform partial mastectomy.
- Close simple surgical incisions.
- Manage stomas.
- Provide routine postoperative care

PGY-III, IV, V: Objectives

- Stage neoplasms
- Prepare patients for operations
- Perform mastectomy, axillary and groin nodal dissection, colon operations, major resections for upper GI, pancreatic, hepatic or biliary cancer. Perform thoracic operations.
- Provide routine and ICU based postoperative care

2) Medical Knowledge

Goals: Residents will demonstrate the ability to use and critically evaluate scientific knowledge to support patient care plans. This will include the domains of basic and clinical sciences such as epidemiology, biochemical and social-behavioral sciences.

PGY-I: Objectives

- Discuss frequency and death rate for common cancers
- Identify genetic factors for cancer where known
- Understand the basics of tumor biology.
- Characterize the AJCC staging systems
- Understand the presentation, diagnosis and treatment of common malignancies with particular reference to NCCN, SSO and ASCO guidelines
- Understand the economics and psychosocial issues associated with cancer patients.

PGY-III, IV, V: Objectives

- Stage specific neoplasms.
- Relate tumor stage to prognosis.
- Analyze nutritional status of cancer patients to optimize for operation.
- Discuss role of radiation oncology and medical oncology in specific neoplasms.
- Define the criteria for palliative vs. curative operations.

3) Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Goals: Surgical 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 (level appropriate) are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the goals.

PGY-I to V: Objectives

- Identify strengths, deficiencies and limits in one's knowledge and expertise;
- Set learning and improvement goals
- Participate in the education of patients, families, students, residents, and other health professionals, as documented by evaluations of a resident's teaching abilities by faculty and/or learners.
- Demonstrate proficiency in the rational use of surgical literature and evidence-based medicine (defends discussions and recommendation with scientific evidence).
- Review current literature
- Acquire the analytic skills required to understand, assess, and apply literature and clinical trial findings to patient care

4) Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Goals: Surgical residents in training shall develop and demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective exchange of information and promote teamwork with professional colleagues, patients and patient families.

PGY-I to V: Objectives

- Develop skills specific to end-of-life issues, palliative care, and delivering "bad news".
- Participate in family conferences when appropriate.
- Maintain comprehensive, legible and timely medical records.

PGY-V (Chief Residents): Additional Objectives

- Chief residents are to be role models and set the appropriate example for the rest of the resident team.
- Chief residents are responsible for communicating resident assignments (clinical, administrative and educational) for the service.
- The chief resident assumes ultimate resident responsibility for communicating with attending surgeons, consultants, patients and their families.

5) Professionalism

Goals: Residents shall demonstrate adherence to ethical principles in carrying out responsibilities in a professional manner.

PGY-I to V: Objectives

- Demonstrate compassion, sensitivity and responsiveness to both a diverse patient population and their physician, nursing and allied health co-workers
- Discuss ethical principles of beneficence, non-malfeasance, autonomy and justice
- Discuss issues related to informed consent and IRB approved human research

6) Systems Based Practice

Goals: Surgical residents must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.

PGY-I to V: Objectives

- Coordinate patient care
- Incorporate considerations of cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis in patient care
- Work in inter-professional teams to enhance patient safety and improve patient care quality.
- Participate in identifying systems errors and in implementing potential systems solutions.
- Describe the phases of clinical oncology research