2nd Year Physician Assistant (PA) Student
Surgery Clinical Rotation

Course Description:

This four-week clinical course provides the PA student with hands-on experience in the operating room as well as in pre- and postoperative assessment and outpatient follow-up.

Course Objectives:

1) Discuss anatomy relevant to common surgical conditions

2) Describe and perform and age-specific (pediatric, adolescent, adult and geriatric) pre-operative evaluation that includes an appropriate history and physical exam

3) Describe and perform an age-specific (pediatric, adolescent, adult and geriatric) focused post-operative evaluation that includes an appropriate history and physical exam

4) Identify the appropriate differential diagnoses, diagnostic studies, assessment and treatment plan of the diseases and conditions frequently encountered in a perioperative setting

5) Discuss prophylaxis and management of potential post-op complications

6) Demonstrate skill in perioperative written documentation and charting similar to those utilized by the rotation site including but not limited to hand-written, electronic, or dictation methods

7) Demonstrate patient communication skills, establishing trust, insuring adequate expectations, demonstrating empathic care, and respect for patients and their caregivers

8) Demonstrate effective communication with the health care team, patient and when appropriate, patient’s advocate and/or family

9) Demonstrate effective communication skills, demonstrating empathic care, and respect to all patients and their caregivers