

**General Surgery Residency  
Loma Linda University Medical Center**

**LLUMC Surgical Oncology 1 Goals and Objectives**

**PGY 1**

**Goals:**

Loma Linda University Medical Center will provide a learning environment for the management and care of the surgical oncology patient. Surgical basic science, including fluids and electrolytes, wound healing and nutrition, will be emphasized. Clinically, residents will assess surgical pathology pre-operatively, develop clinical judgment on managing these issues, and learn operative skills to address the problem. Careful postoperative care and follow up will be emphasized. In addition, residents will participate in the various tumor boards and become familiar with the different adjuvant and neo-adjuvant treatment options. Also, residents will develop a working knowledge of the AJCC staging system for cancer, and use it to guide treatment recommendations. Residents will develop cognitive and technical skills in dealing with oncological issues.

**Objectives:**

**Medical Knowledge**

Describe the anatomy of the breast.

Explain the hormonal regulation of the breast.

Summarize the incidence, epidemiology, and risk factors associated with breast cancer.

Distinguish between these common entities in the differential diagnosis of breast masses: fibroadenomas, fibrocystic disease, cysts, fat necrosis, abscesses and cancer

Explain the general indications, uses, and limitations of mammography.

Discuss the principles and historic context of the basic options available for the treatment of breast cancer such as:

- a. Radical mastectomy
- b. Modified radical mastectomy
- c. Axillary lymph node dissection
- d. Partial mastectomy
- e. Sentinel lymph node biopsy

Outline the genetic and environmental factors associated with carcinoma of the breast.

Describe the following pathological types of breast cancer, including the biology, natural history, and prognosis of each:

- a. Infiltrating ductal carcinoma
- b. Ductal carcinoma in situ
- c. Infiltrating lobular carcinoma
- d. Lobular carcinoma in situ

Outline the diagnostic work-up and the differential diagnosis of various forms of nipple discharge.

Explain the use of tumor, nodes, and metastases (TNM) staging in the treatment of breast cancer.

Summarize the rationale for using a team approach to facilitate the complex discussions and explanation of options for the newly diagnosed breast cancer patient prior to definitive treatment (e.g., team of medical oncologist, surgical oncologist, plastic surgeon, and radiation oncologist, breast radiologist, breast pathologist).

Explain the role of reduction and augmentation mammoplasty.

Discuss several causes of gynecomastia and outline an appropriate work-up.

Describe the different types of melanoma and outline the diagnostic workup.

Discuss the role and principles of sentinel lymph node biopsy in melanoma.

Discuss the treatment including wide local excision according the depth of invasion of melanoma.

Describe adjuvant therapy available in the treatment of melanoma.

Have an understanding of the pathophysiology of sarcoma including subtypes, their natural history, prognosis, and treatment modalities.

Describe the diagnostic workup that follows the diagnosis of sarcoma.

## **Patient Care**

Establish basic proficiency in providing pre-operative and post-operative care (write appropriate pre-op and post-op orders for floor patients, handle nursing calls appropriately, and manage most routine post-operative care with minimal intervention by supervisor).

Take an appropriate history to evaluate patients with surgical oncology issues to include:

- a. A complete history of present illness
- b. Presence of any co-morbidities
- c. A review of social and family history impacting the present problem
- d. A complete review of systems

Demonstrate an increasing level of skill in the physical examination of the surgical oncology patient.

Develop a proficiency in evaluation and interpretation of the different diagnostic modalities including: X-Ray, ultrasound, CT scan, contrast studies and MRI.

Discuss treatment options, risks and potential complications of patients with surgical issues.

Assist in the performance of surgical procedures.

Demonstrate skill in basic surgical techniques, including:

- Knot tying
- Exposure and retraction
- Knowledge of instrumentation
- Incisions
- Closure of incisions
- Handling of graft material including mesh
- Establishing pneumoperitoneum
- Handling of laparoscopic instruments
- Handling of the laparoscopic camera

### **Professionalism**

Be receptive to feedback on performance, attentive to ethical issues and be involved in end-of-life discussions and decisions.

Understand the importance of honesty in the doctor-patient relationship and other medical interactions.

Treat each patient, regardless of social or other circumstances, with the same degree of respect you would afford to your own family members.

Learn how to participate in discussions and become an effective part of rounds, attending staff conference, etc.

Complete all assigned patient care tasks for which you are responsible or provide complete sign out to the on-call resident.

Maintain a presentable appearance that sets the standard for the hospital this includes but is not limited to adequate hygiene and appropriate dress. Scrubs should be worn only when operating or while on call.

Assist with families of critically injured/ill patients and guidance of families towards or through difficult decisions.

Demonstrate mentoring and positive role-modeling skills.

### **Systems-Based Practice**

Understand, review, and contribute to the refinement of clinical pathways related to cancer patients.

Understand the cost implications of medical decision-making.

Partner with health care management to facilitate resource-efficient utilization of the hospital's resources.

Describe in general terms the benefits of clinical pathway implementation.

Develop a cost-effective attitude toward patient management.

Develop an appreciation for the benefits of a multi-disciplinary approach to management of critically ill surgical patients.

Comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) regulations regarding patient privacy and confidentiality.

### **Practice Based Learning & Improvement**

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Evaluate published literature in critically acclaimed journals and texts
- Apply clinical trials data to patient management
- Participate in academic and clinical discussions

Accept responsibility for all dimensions of routine patient management on the wards.

Apply knowledge of scientific data and best practices to the care of the surgical patient.

Facilitate learning of medical students and physician assistant students on the team.

Use the LLUMC library and/or electronic databases of on-line resources to obtain up to date information and review recent advances in the care of the surgical patient.

Demonstrate a consistent pattern of responsible patient care and application of new knowledge to patient management.

Demonstrate a command and facility with on line educational tools.

### **Interpersonal & Communication Skills**

Work as effective team members.

Cultivate a culture of mutual respect with members of nursing and support staff.

Develop patterns of frequent and accurate communication with team members and attending staff.

Gain an appreciation for both verbal and non-verbal communication from patients and staff.

Demonstrate consistent respectful interactions with members of nursing and support staff.

Demonstrate consistent, accurate and timely communication with members of the surgical team.

Demonstrate sensitivity and thoughtfulness to patients concerns, and anxieties.

Demonstrate the ability to provide and request appropriate consultation from other medical specialists.