

FOURTH YEAR ELECTIVE TITLE Breast Surgery		COURSE NUMBER SURG 9284	LOCATION MMC
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BLOCKS AVAILABLE ALL	DURATION/WEEKS MIN: 1 WEEK MAX: 4 WEEKS	HOURS PER WEEK 40	STUDENTS MAX: 1
LECTURES/SEMINARS YES	OUTPATIENT YES (80%)	INPATIENT YES	HOUSESTAFF YES
NIGHT CALL NO	WEEKENDS NO	LAB NO	EXAM REQUIRED NO

OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOAL OF ELECTIVE

This elective is designed for students who want to learn more about the management of symptoms of breast disease including breast cancer and to introduce students to the field of breast surgery. It is designed for the student interested in general or plastic surgery, radiation oncology, or medical oncology. Students will evaluate and follow inpatients and outpatients. They will participate in surgical procedures with the breast surgeons.

OBJECTIVES

Patient care –

- The student will be able to conduct a medical interview with a patient and obtain information regarding the targeted and specific issues related to the presentation of benign or malignant disease in breast (e.g. pain, mass or nipple discharge)
- The student will be able to perform a directed physical examination of the breast.
- The student will be able to interpret imaging studies; including mammography
- The student will assist in the operating room and acquire basic surgical skills pertaining to surgical management of breast cancer
- The students will learn methods of diagnosis and management of breast cancer in both an inpatient and outpatient settings.

Medical knowledge –

- The students will develop an understanding of the principles of breast anatomy and physiology pertinent to the presentation of breast disease including breast cancer; (e.g. breast mass, nipple discharge and skin changes)
- The students will describe the basic steps of surgical management of breast cancer

Practice-based learning and improvement –

- The student will use scientific evidence and methods to investigate evaluate and improve patient care practices.
- The students will become familiar with the NCCN guidelines for the management of breast cancer
- The student will obtain reliable information about developing paradigms in the diagnosis and management of breast cancer
- The student will review current literature and participate in discussions about changing parameters in the field.

Interpersonal and communication skills –

- The student will develop the skills to communicate effectively with patients
- The student will learn sensitivity when discussing the fears of potential cancer diagnosis or delivering bad news with a definitive cancer diagnosis
- The student will learn how to document patient encounters in a concise accurate manner.

Professionalism –

- The student will act in a professional manner.
- The student will show compassion, courtesy, and respect for patients and staff.

Systems-based Practice –

- The student will attend multidisciplinary breast conference and learn the benefit of a team approach to the management of breast cancer
- The student will demonstrate an awareness of the larger context of the health care system
- The student will learn when to request referrals from physical therapy, rehab, social workers, chemotherapy nurses and other members of the health care team who participate in cancer care.

Brief Description of Activities:

The student will attend office hours with the breast surgeons. They will participate in the surgery, pre-operative, and post-operative care. They will read assigned articles to help them understand the general treatment concepts including surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy for the different stages of breast cancer.

METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Evaluation of clinical performance based on assessment of professionalism, medical knowledge, patient care, system-based practice, interpersonal and communication skills, practice-based learning and improvement.

Are there any prerequisites for this elective? Yes, Core Clerkship.

Is this elective available to third year medical students as well? No Yes