Description
The VA General Surgery rotation at PAVAHCS offers a broad experience in the evaluation and care of general surgical patients including surgical oncology, gastrointestinal disorders, hernia disease, bariatrics, and colorectal disease. The service has inpatient, critical care, and outpatient components.

Goals
The goal of the PAVAHCS Surgery rotation is to help the residents:
• to be competent, humanistic, and scholarly physicians. Residents are expected to provide comprehensive care to adult patients presenting with surgical disease in both the inpatient and ambulatory settings

Objectives
The rotation has the following objectives; The resident will:
• be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.
• demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care.
• 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
• demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals
• demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles
• 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.

Residents can expect daily teaching from members of the team, both at the bedside and in informal sessions. Feedback and teaching is individualized to the needs of the resident during on a one on one basis in the OR and clinic with an attending. Interns will take home call as directed by the program and are expected to manage the patients with consultation as needed with the chief resident, rapid response team when necessary, and on-call attending.
PAVAHCS General Surgery: R1

Residents are evaluated in the 6 core competencies (Medical knowledge, Patient care, Interpersonal communication skills, Professionalism, Practice based learning and Systems based practice) using specific web-based evaluation forms. An outline of core competencies with rotation objectives, instructional activities, and evaluations is below.

Specific goals and objectives for residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS Core Competencies</th>
<th>R-1 OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>EVALUATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Knowledge: To acquire and apply knowledge of established and evolving basic and applied clinical sciences that relate to the practice of adult surgical care | ▪ Utilize and interpret diagnostic laboratory testing in patients with acute surgical conditions.  
▪ Utilize and interpret diagnostic radiological tests in patients with acute surgical processes.  
▪ Correctly use invasive monitoring and non-surgical invasive procedures to diagnose and treat surgical complication.  
▪ Understand principles of treatment of common surgical problems in patients with surgical emergencies.  
▪ Understand the pathophysiology of cholecystitis and bowel obstruction  
▪ Describe the repair of an inguinal hernia.  
▪ Describe the repair of an incisional hernia.  
▪ Describe the effective management of patients presenting with acute abdominal process. | Faculty supervision in clinic, operating room and rounds for inpatients  
Independent reading  
Core Curriculum Conference | Weekly feedback by attending  
End of rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending (https://stanford.medhub.com) |
**Patient Care:**

To provide compassionate, appropriate, and effective care of adults.

- Perform appropriate resuscitation in patients with acute surgical problems.
- Perform and document a comprehensive history and physical, including past medical history, review of systems, social and family history, and comprehensive physical examination in the patient with acute surgical problems.
- Interpret medical tests and imaging results in the patient with an acute surgical problem.
- Develop a differential diagnosis and treatment plan.
- Perform the following procedures:
  - Procedures on skin and subcutaneous lesions
  - Laparoscopic appendectomy
  - Open appendectomy
  - Inguinal hernia repair
  - Incision and drainage of perirectal abscess
  - Basic wound and drain care
- Dictate within 24 hours of patient discharge a comprehensive discharge summary that includes a concise, accurate assessment of the patient’s hospital course, including any complications and an accurate, appropriate follow-up plan.
- Work with PAs, nurse practitioners, nurse coordinators and other members of the healthcare team to ensure effective discharge planning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty supervision in clinic, operating room and rounds for inpatients</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly feedback by attending</td>
<td>End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS attending (<a href="https://stanford.medhub.com">https://stanford.medhub.com</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer to peer evaluation</td>
<td>360° evaluation by nurses and patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOALS Core Competencies</td>
<td>R-1 OBJECTIVES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Effective Interpersonal and Communication skills: Residents must communicate in a way that leads to effective information exchange of a critical care plan to patients, their families, and professional associates. | • Provide family members an update of patient’s condition.  
• Discusses appropriate perioperative concerns with team, clinical nurse specialists, and consultants  
• Works effectively with floor and ICU nurses to communicate care plan | Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Care Surgery Team | Weekly feedback by attending  
End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending  
(https://stanford.medhub.com)  
Peer to peer evaluation  
360° evaluation by nurses and patients |
| Practice based learning and improvement: In order to improve patient care practices, residents must be able to critically evaluate their own performance as well as appraise and incorporate clinical scientific evidence. | • Identify impact of complications on recovery of patients  
• Use information technology to assimilate current medical literature as it relates to patient care  
• Learns attention to detail in surgical patients | Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Surgery Team  
Weekly M/M Conference | Weekly feedback by attending  
End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending  
(https://stanford.medhub.com) |
### Professionalism:
Residents must show a commitment to professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diversity.

- Displays appropriate demeanor, even in adverse situations
- Acts with sensitivity and responsiveness to patient’s culture, age, gender, and disabilities
- Maintains accountability to patients, medical profession, and society
- Obtains proper consent and confirm advanced directives, if present
- Becomes life long learner

Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Care Surgery Team
Weekly Journal Club
Weekly feedback by attending End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending ([https://stanford.medhub.com](https://stanford.medhub.com))
Peer to peer evaluation
360° evaluation by nurses and patients

---

### System-based Practice:
A resident must be able to demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide optimal care.

- Learn to use care protocols to improve quality
- of care
- Act as an organizational problem solver for patients
- Understands how efficient patient care enables the hospital to deliver a wide range of patient care.
- Understands how care practice affects staffing and health care costs

Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Care Surgery Team
Weekly feedback by attending and Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending ([https://stanford.medhub.com](https://stanford.medhub.com))