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.

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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS Core Competencies</th>
<th>R-4 OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>EVALUATION</th>
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| Knowledge: To acquire and apply knowledge of established and evolving basic and applied clinical sciences that relate to the practice of adult surgical care | ▪ Explain the pathophysiology of carcinoma of the GI system to include: typical history and presentation, diagnostic evaluation (CT, ERCP, PTC, MRCP, laparoscopy, laparotomy), indications for operative versus nonoperative drainage, stenting, and surgical resection  
▪ Summarize the best methods to use in reoperative surgery to prevent or minimize surgical complications.  
▪ Write a management plan for a patient with newly diagnosed colorectal mass.  
▪ Describe the appropriate management of patients with benign and malignant lesions of the liver and pancreas.  
▪ Write a management plan for a patient with new onset jaundice  
▪ Understand the pathophysiology, indications for surgically treatable diseases of the GI and endocrine systems.  
▪ Understand the use of TNM classification models for purposes of staging and prognosis  
▪ Understand the indications for and contraindications for basic and advanced laparoscopic procedures  
▪ Describe the diagnosis and treatment | 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.

- Assume the overall responsibility (with direct supervision from faculty) for all patients on the service, including supervision of the residents assuming direct care responsibilities.
- Serve as teaching assistant for PGY 1-2 residents as they perform operations appropriate to their level.
- Design and execute an appropriate plan of care for surgical patients including preoperative workup (incl. assessment of co-morbid conditions), intraoperative technique and appropriate postoperative follow-up for disorders of the stomach, small intestine, colon, and anorectum
- Prioritize patient care responsibilities.
- Accurately assess patient acuity and communicate changes in patient condition to the supervisory faculty.
- Effectively interact with a multidisciplinary team to provide quality patient care.
- Effectively distribute patient care responsibilities within multidisciplinary team.
- Ensure accurate hand-off of patient care responsibilities.
- Work with PAs, nurse practitioners, nurse coordinators and other members of the healthcare team to ensure effective discharge planning.
- Discuss the discharge plan with the patient, family and other members of the healthcare team in an accurate, clear manner.
- Perform the following procedures:
  - reoperative surgery
  - thyroid resection
  - parathyroid resection
  - lysis of adhesions
  - GI oncologic surgery
  - advanced laparoscopic surgery
  - bariatric surgery

### Faculty supervision in clinic, operating room and rounds for inpatients

- Weekly feedback by attending
- End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS attending ([https://stanford.medhub.com](https://stanford.medhub.com))
- Peer to peer evaluation
- 360° evaluation by nurses and patients
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Effective Interpersonal and Communication skills:</th>
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<th>Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Care Surgery Team</th>
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<td>Residents must communicate in a way that leads to effective information exchange of a critical care plan to patients, their families, and professional associates.</td>
<td>• Effectively supervise lower level residents in the care of patients in the hospital and in the operating room.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weekly feedback by attending End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending (<a href="https://stanford.medhub.com">https://stanford.medhub.com</a>) Peer to peer evaluation 360° evaluation by nurses and patients</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Provide family members an update of patient’s condition.</td>
<td>• Discusses appropriate perioperative concerns with team, clinical nurse specialists, and consultants</td>
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<td>• Works effectively with floor and ICU nurses to communicate care plan</td>
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**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.

- Assume a leadership role in daily rounds on the ward and in the clinic by presenting patients, including relevant clinical data, in a clear, concise manner, emphasizing relevance to quality care.
- Actively pursue answers to clinical situations in the literature, and will present findings to the healthcare team.
- Analyze surgical complications and present findings at the Morbidity and Mortality patient improvement conference in a constructive and educational manner.
- Review a scientific paper relating to a current patient and present a report each week.

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<tr>
<th>Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Surgery Team</th>
<th>Weekly M/M Conference</th>
<th>Weekly feedback by attending End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending (<a href="https://stanford.medhub.com">https://stanford.medhub.com</a>)</th>
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### Professionalism: Residents must show a commitment to professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diversity.

- Demonstrate commitment to surgery patients by readiness to provide bedside and operative care irrespective of time of day.
- Demonstrate integrity and respect when working as a member of a multidisciplinary healthcare team by extending courtesy to all members of the team.
- 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.

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<tr>
<th>Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Care Surgery Team</th>
<th>Weekly Journal Club</th>
<th>Weekly feedback by attending End of Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending <a href="https://stanford.medhub.com">https://stanford.medhub.com</a></th>
<th>Peer to peer evaluation</th>
<th>360° evaluation by nurses and patients</th>
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### Systems-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

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<th>Daily rounds with the PAVAHCS Care Surgery Team</th>
<th>Weekly feedback by attending and Rotation evaluation by each PAVAHCS Surgery attending (<a href="https://stanford.medhub.com">https://stanford.medhub.com</a>)</th>
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