

CHIEF PROGRESS REPORT- Surgery November 2021

Morbidity and Mortality (M&M) Framework

The Members of the Department of Surgery are committed with Quality of Care and Patient Safety. There has been good coordination between the Quality of Practice Committee and members of the Department of Surgery. Members of the Department have also participated in the QCIPA sessions and supported the Patient Advocate Office for the Review of Cases of Concern.

Regarding Morbidity and Mortality Rounds, some Sections routinely review their cases of concern as part of their monthly rounds. All these rounds will follow the standardized recommendations and guidance that the Quality Practice Committee has recently introduced.

Timely access to the Operating Room, in particular for Emergency Cases, also has influence in the quality of Care. There is a newly created committee with participation of most Surgical Sections to oversee the appropriate utilization of the Non-scheduled Surgical List. The committee reviews and discusses cases when the category used or the decision to upgrade it might be controversial.

Members of the Department of Surgery are involved in Quality Initiatives as well. As an example, the SOP Group with Dr. Petrakos is currently conducting two Quality Initiative Projects. Also, the NP for General Surgery/Trauma, Mr. Karl Sweet, in collaboration with the General Surgery and Trauma staff at Ouellette, led the creation of the current protocol for Alcohol Withdrawal that was initially proposed for Trauma and now is used for other clinical situations as well, particularly surgical cases.

Professional Staff Engagement

The Department of Surgery meets once per month. Diverse points of main concern for the daily practice of the Members of the Department are included for discussion, and there is an open forum at the end of each meeting so any Member can discuss his/her concerns. Concerns are identified, discussed by the Group, and when necessary, the issues are discussed by the Chief of Surgery with other Members of Medical or Administration Leadership for possible improvement, and they are once again discussed as a follow up in the next meeting of the Department. Many of the Sections have their own monthly Session.

Members of the Department are encouraged to have direct communication with the Chief of Surgery when necessary, either by email, text message, or cell phone, and many of them frequently do.

Recruitment and Retention

The Different Sections of the Department of Surgery have recruited excellent candidates in recent years. Lately, the process for Recruitment has been modified in accordance with the recommendations and criteria from the Recruitment and Retention Committee.

The different Sections are encouraged to plan ahead for possible retirements, so the need of new members is known in advance; and with the help and coordination with Medical Affairs, appropriate and timely efforts for recruitment could be started. Currently, Plastic Surgery and Thoracic Surgery are the Sections with more priority for recruitment of new Members.

The Retention of its Members is an important goal of the Department of Surgery. To achieve this, the different Sections and the Department try to see that every member feels fully integrated and entitled to participate in equal basis for the call schedule and the use of Hospital Resources. In spite of all possible efforts and support, however, retention has been challenging in some of the Sections.

Performance and Leadership Evaluations

Evaluations for Performance and Leadership Skills for the Chief of Surgery are directly provided by the Chief of Staff and Medical Affairs.

The Heads of the Section and the Chief of Surgery meet formally at least once per month in the monthly OR Committee Meeting. The OR Committee meeting has continued as well during the Pandemic.

The Chief of Surgery also has the opportunity to discuss in frequent basis with other members of Surgical Leadership, including Administration, any concerns with performance of the members of the Department, and the Heads of Sections. When necessary, any issues are directly discussed with the Members, and all this information is taken into account by the Chief of Surgery for recommendations during the process of reapplication every year.

Academic and Research Vision

Most Members of the Department of Surgery are heavily involved with Medical Education, at the Undergraduate Level, and also at the Postgraduate Level. Some Members of

the Department of Surgery are as well involved in Research. The following list includes some of the ongoing projects or recent publications/presentations by Members of the Department.

- Katherine Goren and Andrea Kassay (Windsor Schulich Students) with **Dr. Kristina Lutz**: "Patients' perspectives of and decision-making surrounding immediate breast reconstruction following a breast cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis."
- Fan S, Hackett J, **Lutz, K**, Heaton G, Symonette C, Grant A. "Regional Wait times for patients with non-melanoma skin cancer in southwestern Ontario." *Plastic Surgery*, 2020 Feb;28(1):5-11.
- Tarola, CL, Young-Speirs M, Speirs J, **Iannicello C**: Remote endarterectomy to remove infected Viabahn stent-graft. *Journal of Vascular Surgery Cases, Innovations and Techniques* 2021;7:474-77.
- Hage A, **Iannicello C**: Critical arm ischemia as rare presentation of giant cell arteritis. *Journal of Vascular Surgery Cases, Innovations and Techniques* 2021;7:332-4.
- SOP sponsoring Schulich Windsor Medical Students with **Dr. Andrew Petrakos**: Does Instituting Endovascular Aneurysm Repair (EVAR) program at WRH improve ICU Length of Stay, Overall Length of Stay, Post Procedure Complications (i.e., Surgical Site Infections, Mortality, etc.).
- SOP sponsoring Schulich Windsor Medical Students with **Dr. Andrew Petrakos**: Does establishment of an electronic seamless Novari-Cerner Interface for generation of Pre-registration Encounter Numbers improve surgeon's efficiency/satisfaction in submitting Admission Histories and Physicals and Phased Order Sets?
- Ilinca Georgescu, **Vladislav Khokhotva**: "Proposed algorithm for treatment of complicated diverticulitis using primary laparoscopic techniques". Poster presentation accepted at 15th European Colorectal Congress December 2021
- Erika Haberfellner, Elyse Quint, **Vladislav Khokhotva**: "Laparoscopic Abscess Drainage in Patients Presenting with Acute Diverticulitis with Purulent Peritonitis: a Case Series". Poster presentation 14th European Colorectal Congress December 2020
- Medical Students Tina Chen and Alveena Ahmed with **Dr. T. Takahashi**: Trauma in the Elderly. Recent experience at WRH. This project had a Grant for Summer Research for Tina Chen by Schulich.
- Medical Students Alveena Ahmed and Tina Chen with **Dr. T. Takahashi**: Spleen Trauma. Experience at WRH.
- Medical Students S. Baker and M. Savic with **Dr. Takahashi and Dr. Ravid**: Book Chapter: Colon, Rectum and Anus (Published in Spanish). Volume: Abdominal Surgery. Digital Surgical Encyclopedia. Online Publication by the National Academy of Medicine (Mexico) 2018. <https://www.asieslamedicina.org.mx/visor/html/?articulo=2348>