

## General Surgery (*Trauma Team*) (Off – Service)

### ROTATION SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

In keeping with the specific standards of accreditation (2009) this rotation assumes administrative support and university affiliation.

At the successful completion of the above rotation, the resident will have further developed the following CanMEDS based competencies:

#### **Medical Expert**

##### **Definition:**

*Medical Expert* is the central role within the surgical CanMEDS framework. Specific to the off-service rotation on General Surgery, junior orthopaedic residents will aim to develop the following expertise based competencies centered around the management of *injured patients under the care of the Trauma Team*.

##### **Key and Enabling Competencies:**

#### **1. Function effectively as consultants, integrating all of the CanMEDS Roles to provide optimal, ethical and patient-centered medical care**

- 1.1 Perform a *Trauma team* consultation, including the presentation of well-documented assessments and recommendations in written and/or verbal form in response to a request from another health care professional
- 1.2 Identify and appropriately respond to relevant ethical issues arising in caring for injured patients
- 1.3. Demonstrate the ability to prioritize professional duties when faced with multiple-system injury patients, or multiple patients and problems presenting at once
- 1.4 Demonstrate compassionate and patient-centered care

#### **2. Establish and maintain clinical knowledge, skills and attitudes appropriate to Level-1 Trauma Center Care**

- 2.1 Demonstrate appropriate interpretations, judgement and skills in general surgical diagnostic techniques including bedside assessment, endoscopy and minimal access surgery to manage adult patients following Trauma/critical injury, including emergency and intensive care.
- 2.2 Demonstrate principles of surgical management in order to provide effective care for trauma patients, *exclusive of major surgical techniques related to the following:*
  - 2.2.1 Thoracic surgery
  - 2.2.2 Vascular surgery
  - 2.2.3 Orthopedic trauma
  - 2.2.4 Interventional imaging technologies

#### **3. Perform a complete and appropriate assessment of a trauma patient**

- 3.1. Identify and explore issues to be addressed in the patient encounter effectively, including the patient's context and preferences
- 3.2. Elicit a trauma-focused history that is relevant, concise and accurate to context and preferences for the purposes of prevention and health promotion, diagnosis and/or management

- 3.3. Perform a trauma focused physical examination that is relevant and accurate for the purposes of prevention and health promotion, diagnosis and/or management
- 3.4. Select medically appropriate investigative methods in a resource-effective and ethical manner.
- 3.5. Demonstrate effective clinical problem solving and judgment to address trauma patient problems, including interpreting available data and integrating information to generate differential diagnoses and management plans

#### **4. Use preventive and therapeutic interventions effectively for patients presenting to the trauma service**

- 4.1. Implement management plans in collaboration with patients and families
- 4.2. Demonstrate appropriate, and timely application of preventive and therapeutic interventions relevant to the surgeon's practice (e.g. thromboprophylaxis)
- 4.3. Ensure appropriate informed consent is obtained for therapies
- 4.4. Ensure patients receive appropriate end-of-life care

#### **5. Demonstrate proficient and appropriate use of procedural skills, both diagnostic and therapeutic in the management of injury patients**

- 5.1. Demonstrate effective, appropriate, and timely performance of therapeutic procedures relevant to the General Surgery Trauma Team.
- 5.2. Manage intraoperative life-threatening hemorrhage, through control of arteries and veins
- 5.3. Manage operatively the critically injured patient including thoracostomy; thoracotomy; surgical airway; central venous, peripheral venous and arterial access; and trauma laparotomy
- 5.4. Resect, reconstruct and preserve skin and soft tissues
- 5.5. Ensure appropriate informed consent is obtained for procedures
- 5.6. Document and disseminate information related to procedures performed and their outcomes
- 5.7. Ensure adequate follow-up is arranged for procedures performed

#### **6. Seek appropriate consultation from other health professionals, recognizing the limits of their expertise, and role of the trauma service in coordinating multi-system injury care**

- 6.1. Demonstrate insight into their own limitations of expertise
- 6.2. Demonstrate effective, appropriate, and timely consultation of another health professional as needed for optimal patient care
- 6.3. Arrange appropriate follow-up care services for a patient and their family

### **Communicator**

#### ***Definition:***

As *Communicators*, surgeons on the General Surgery Trauma Service effectively facilitate the doctor-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during, and after the medical encounter. Additionally the Trauma Service serves the unique role of coordinating multiple services and disciplines in the care of poly-trauma patients, with good communication being essential to safe and effective patient care.

#### ***Key and Enabling Competencies:***

##### **1. Develop rapport, trust, and ethical therapeutic relationships with trauma patients and their families**

- 1.1. Recognize the importance of communication as a core clinical skill for surgeons
- 1.2. Establish positive therapeutic relationships with understanding, trust, respect, honesty and empathy
- 1.3. Respect patient confidentiality, privacy and autonomy

1.4. Listen effectively and respond to nonverbal cues

**2. Accurately elicit and synthesize relevant information and perspectives of trauma patients and families, colleagues, and other professionals**

2.1 Gather information about the injury and associated complications, but also about a patient's beliefs, concerns, expectations and recovery experience

2.2 Seek out and synthesize relevant information from other sources, such as a patient's family, caregivers and other professionals

2.3 Obtain information accurately and effectively under time constraints such as before emergency operations

**3. Develop a common understanding on issues, problems and plans with trauma patients, families, and other professionals to develop a shared plan of care**

3.1 Identify and explore problems to be addressed from a patient encounter effectively, including the patient's context, responses, concerns, and preferences

3.2 Respect diversity and difference, including but not limited to the impact of gender, religion and cultural beliefs on decision-making

3.3 Encourage discussion, questions, and interaction in order to engage patients, families, and relevant health professionals in shared decision-making

3.4 Manage challenging communication issues effectively, such as delivering bad news, disclosing surgical error, and dealing with anger, confusion and misunderstanding following trauma/injury.

**4. Convey effective oral and written information about a medical encounter**

4.1 Maintain accurate, and appropriate records of procedures and other clinical encounters, that include the key elements that guide decision making

4.2 Document the process of informed consent for operative and other interventions

4.3 Present verbal reports of clinical encounters and plans

**Collaborator**

***Definition:***

As *Collaborators*, the General Surgery Trauma Service effectively works within and among health care teams to achieve optimal multi-disciplinary (poly)trauma patient care. They serve a unique role and must collaborate across various disciplines and services to address patient/injury needs.

***Key and Enabling Competencies:***

**1. Recognize and respect the diverse roles, responsibilities, ethics and competences of other professionals**

1.1. Recognized disparate resource needs of other professionals

1.2. Recognize the limits of own knowledge and expertise, and the appropriate engagement of other professionals

**2. Respect team ethics, including confidentiality, resource allocation and professionalism**

2.1 Preserve confidentiality of patients and caregivers

**3. Work with others effectively to plan and care for trauma patients**

3.1 Work with others to assess and plan care of for trauma patients

- 3.1.1. Participate in the multidisciplinary management of trauma patients
- 3.1.2. Lead effectively the multidisciplinary care of critically ill trauma patients including those with polytrauma
- 3.1.3. Seek appropriate input from colleagues in planning treatment
- 3.2 Work with other members of the operating room team to provide safe and effective care for trauma patients
  - 3.2.1. Participate and lead where appropriate in a pause or checklist immediately before incision
  - 3.2.2. Communicate clearly and concisely with all operating room team members
  - 3.2.3. Work with operating room team members to safely transfer patients and their relevant information to postoperative care providers
- 3.3 Interact with colleagues to optimize the quality of postoperative/postinjury trauma patient care
  - 3.3.1. Utilize the expertise and availability of those involved in pain management to optimize postoperative/post injury pain control
  - 3.3.2. Consult and work with experts in critical care and other disciplines including allied health professionals

## **Leader**

### ***Definition:***

As *Managers*, the General Surgery Trauma Service coordinates multiple components of our health care system, including: organizing the transfer and care of critically injured patients; maintaining quality, sustainable and up-to-date regional trauma practices; making decisions about allocating trauma resources; and, providing safe and timely regional trauma care.

### ***Key and Enabling Competencies***

#### **1. Contribute to the effectiveness of their health care organizations and systems**

- 1.1. Work effectively with health care team members from other disciplines and services in their organizations as part of the care for trauma patients
- 1.2. Participate in feedback targeted towards quality improvement and education with respect to local and regional trauma care

#### **2. Collect skills to manage their practice and career effectively**

- 2.1 Set priorities and manage time to balance professional and personal life
- 2.2 Implement processes to ensure professional improvement
- 2.3 Employ information technology and electronic medical records efficiently and appropriately

## **Health Advocate**

### ***Definition:***

As *Health Advocates*, the General Surgery Trauma Team use their expertise and influence to advocate for the health and well-being of trauma patients from an individual and population perspective. This includes understanding the role of individual and systemic risk factors for injury and associated complications.

### ***Key and Enabling Competencies:***

#### **1. Respond to individual patient health needs as part of patient care**

- 1.1. Identify and address the unique health needs of trauma patient

- 1.2 Promote smoking cessation and be aware of available resources
- 1.3 Advise patients against high risk behaviours such as drinking and driving
- 1.4 Establish priorities for the care of individual patients whose needs compete with others for scarce resources

## **Scholar**

### ***Definition:***

As *Scholars*, the General Surgery Trauma Service demonstrates lifelong commitment to reflective learning, and creation, dissemination, application and translation of new trauma knowledge and management that inform each CanMEDS domain.

### **1. Maintain and enhance professional activities through ongoing learning**

- 1.1. Participate in local and regional teaching rounds focused on trauma education and Quality improvement.

## **Professional**

### ***Definition:***

As *Professionals*, the General Surgery Trauma Service is committed to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation, and high personal standards of behaviour.

### **1. Demonstrate a commitment and accountability to trauma patients, profession, and society through ethical practice**

- 1.1 Exhibit appropriate professional behaviors in practice, including honesty, integrity, commitment, compassion, respect and altruism
- 1.2 Demonstrate a commitment to delivering the highest quality care and maintenance of competence
- 1.3 Accept responsibility for the overall care of the surgical patient
- 1.4 Recognize and appropriately respond to ethical issues encountered in practice
- 1.5 Establish appropriate and ethical relationship with colleagues, patients and relatives, industry, advocacy groups and other organizations
- 1.6 Disclose adverse events and outcomes openly and honestly
- 1.7 Describe the principles of biomedical ethics
- 1.8 Apply the principles of patient autonomy, beneficence and non-maleficence to surgical decision making
- 1.9 Recognize, manage and disclose, where appropriate, conflicts of interest
- 1.10 Recognize the principles and limits of patient and colleague confidentiality as defined by professional practice standards and the law

### **2. Demonstrate a commitment and accountability to trauma patients, profession and society through participation in profession-led regulation and improvement**

- 2.1. Demonstrate knowledge and an understanding of the professional, legal and ethical codes of practice
- 2.2. Fulfill the regulatory and legal obligations required of current practice
  - 2.2.1. Explain the principles of medical jurisprudence
- 2.3. Demonstrate accountability to professional regulatory bodies
- 2.4. Recognize and respond to others' unprofessional behaviour in practice
- 2.5. Participate in peer review of the processes and outcomes of medical and surgical care

**3. Demonstrate a commitment to surgeon health and sustainable practice**

- 3.1. Balance personal and professional priorities to ensure personal health and a sustainable practice
  - 3.1.1. Demonstrate self-awareness of professional limitations
  - 3.1.2. Recognize and manage occupational health risks from disease transmission, substance abuse, fatigue and overwork
  - 3.1.3. Prevent, recognize and manage personal health impairment that may affect surgical competence
- 3.2. Strive to heighten personal and professional awareness and insight
- 3.3. Recognize other professionals in need and respond appropriately

**4. Recognize the importance of role modeling**

- 4.1. Act as positive role models for colleagues, trainees and other health professionals
- 4.2. Reflect positively the role of general surgeons in society

Approved by RPC on May 24, 2022