UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences
University of North Dakota

Elective Description

Campus: Southeast (Fargo)
Elective/Experience Title: Cardiothoracic Surgery
Location of Elective: Sanford Clinic – Fargo, ND

Department: Surgery
Course Number: SURG 9228

Preceptor(s): Gurjyot Bajwa, MD; Cecilia Benz, MD; Cornelius Dyke, MD & Roxanne Newman, MD

Period(s) Offered: All periods
Number of students per period: 1 student

Course Prerequisites: Completion of Surgery Clerkship
Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: To provide education and experience in the care of patients requiring cardiothoracic services.

Objectives:

Following successful completion of this elective, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of cardiac and thoracic anatomy and pathophysiology as well as the knowledge of the procedure of cardiopulmonary bypass.
2. Discuss the indications and interpretation of diagnostic procedures related to cardiothoracic surgical diseases including CT scan, cardiac catheterization and angiography.
3. Demonstrate the evaluation of the preoperative patient (including performance of the history and physical examination and evaluation of lab and imaging data) in order to determine if the patient is ready to undergo the surgical procedure.
4. Participate in operative procedures, and in the postoperative care of cardiothoracic surgical patients under the supervision of the preceptor.
5. Write thorough, accurate, and complete progress notes.

Instructional Activities:

During this elective, the student will be involved in/experience:

1. Daily patient care rounds with surgical residents and staff.
2. Participating in cardiothoracic surgical procedures under the supervision of surgical residents and physician staff.
3. Participating in departmental educational programs including conferences and lectures.
4. Reading of standard cardiothoracic surgery textbooks and primary literature.
5. Discussing the indications and utilization of studies and procedures related to the care of the cardiothoracic surgery patients.

Criteria for Grading:

During and following this elective, the preceptor will:

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form.
2. Evaluate by direct observation of clinical skills and review of patient medical records the student's ability to perform and document an efficient history and physical exam on a patient requiring cardiothoracic surgery services.
3. Evaluate by direct observation and review of the patient medical records the student's ability to use and interpret the laboratory and radiological studies as they pertain to the patient requiring cardiothoracic surgery services.
4. Evaluate by direct observation the student's level of proficiency in diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease.
5. Evaluate by direct observation the student's ability to work as member of an integrated health team.
6. Evaluate by direct observation the student's ability to present cases and integrate, assess and learn new information.