

Concord Hospital Orthopaedic Department

Medical Student Handout

Dear Student,

On behalf of the Orthopaedic Department at Concord Hospital I'd like to welcome you to your rotation with our department. During this term, we hope to teach you the essentials and basics of clinical orthopaedics. Hopefully by the end of the term you'll decide that orthopaedic surgery is your chosen career path, but even if this is not the case, it's important to understand that patients with orthopaedic problems form a large bulk of both emergency department and general practice workloads, so learning the essentials now will keep you in good stead in the future.

Your learning objectives during this terms are as follows:

1. Orthopaedic Emergencies
 - a. Be able to recognise, investigate and understand the basics of treatment of the following conditions:
 - i. Compartment Syndrome
 - ii. Septics Arthritis
 - iii. The Injured and Threatened Limb
 1. Open injuries and threatened skin
 2. Vascular Compromise
 3. Neurological Compromise
 - iv. Protecting the Cervical Spine
2. Orthopaedic History
 - a. Pain profile
 - b. Joint Profile
 - c. Functional Profile
 - d. General Medical History
3. Orthopaedic Examination
 - a. Look
 - b. Feel
 - c. Move
 - d. Special Tests
4. Osteoarthritis
 - a. Clinical presentation
 - b. X-ray Changes
 - c. Treatment Options
5. Fractures
 - a. Describing X-rays
 - b. Basics of Fracture Care in the Emergency Department

Most of these topics should be covered at some stage during your rotation, but you are also expected to read on these topics. A useful text is "Apley's Concise Orthopaedics and Trauma", and useful information can also be found online, including the online "Wheeless Textbook of Orthopaedics".

Listed below is a timetable of your weekly activities. You may leave these activities to attend previously organised structured teaching.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0730 Ward Round 6N	0730 Ward Round 6N 0715-0800: Dr Sungaran <u>Registrar Tutorial alternating weekly: students welcome</u>	0730 Ward Round 6N	0730 Ward Round 6N	<u>0730-0830 Orthopaedic Grand Rounds 6W (compulsory)</u>
0800-1600 Dr Zicat Theatres all day	0800-1600 Dr Sungaran / Dr Sher OT alternating weekly	0800-1200 Dr Sungaran Clinic	0830-1300 Dr Walker / Della Torre Clinic alternating fortnightly	0830-1300 Dr Gothelf / Walker clinic alternating weekly
0830-1230 Dr Trantalis' Clinic fortnightly 6W with <u>med student tutorial</u>	0830-1300 Dr Sher/Dr Zicat Clinics alternating weekly	0800-1600 Dr Walker Theatres all day: sometimes Prof Bruce / Dr Della Torre	0800-1600 Dr Gothelf Theatres per fortnight	0830-1630 Dr Trantalis Theatres: sometimes Dr Della Torre

Try to get an even share of operating theatre and clinic time. If you plan to attend the operating theatre, then you should “work-up” at least one patient on the list by seeing them pre-operatively in the day surgery unit and taking a history, performing a relevant examination, and reviewing the investigations. You should then present these cases during the operating list to the consultant surgeon (or registrar) in charge of that list, who can then go through the x-rays and provide further teaching.

You will also greatly benefit by following the “on-call” orthopaedic registrar to attend both emergency department and ward orthopaedic consultations.

You must attend the Orthopaedic Grand Rounds held every Friday from 0730-0830 on Level 6W. In addition, I will provide you with structured teaching where you will present on one of the “orthopaedic emergencies” topics in an informal manner. This may occur either during my fortnightly clinic or in between cases during one of my operating lists (3 out of 4 Fridays).

Four weeks is a relatively short period of time that will pass quickly. I will complete your assessments at the end of the term. I’m sure that in the future you will be rewarded by your hard work during your rotation with the Concord Hospital Orthopaedic Department.

Please feel free to contact any one of our team if you have any questions or concerns.

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