**62/HAM/SCM**

**Introduction to Basic Surgical Techniques**

**Module Tutor:** Mr Vassilios Papalois MD, PhD, FICS, FRCS, FEBS

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## Reporting instructions

The students will report to Mr Vassilios Papalois at 9.30am on the first day of the module. The office location is: Directorate of Renal & Transplant Services, 4th Floor, Hammersmith House, Hammersmith Hospital.

## Aims

This module is aimed at students who wish to broaden their theoretical background and practical experience in basic surgical procedures and techniques and who are considering a surgical specialty as a career.

**Background information**

The West London Renal and Transplant Centre is the biggest of its kind in Europe. We perform at least 30 operations every week (kidney and pancreas transplantation, vascular access, general abdominal surgery). In the calendar year of 2009 we performed 216 kidney and pancreas transplants. We have extensive experience in training medical students, SHOs and SpRs, as well as qualified physicians and surgeons who come from abroad to gain experience in organ transplantation.

**Key learning events**

1. Face-to-face tutorials with the module leader.

2. Participation (scrubbed and actively assisting) in operations taking place in ten surgical sessions every week.

3. Practise of basic surgical procedures and techniques under direct supervision.

Pre-operative evaluation and post-operative follow-up of the surgical patients.

4. Practice on a surgical simulator.

5. Attendance of the surgical clinics.

6. Attendance of the MDT meetings and Grand Rounds of the Renal and Transplant Unit.

The emphasis of the module (> 90% of the student’s time) will be on learning events 1, 2, 3 and 4.

## Learning outcomes

The students will be able to:

a. broaden their knowledge regarding the practical issues of basic surgical procedures and techniques.

b. scrub in surgical cases (general abdominal surgery, kidney and pancreas transplantation, vascular access for dialysis), which are performed on 10 surgical sessions every week and they will be taught how to assist and how to appreciate the events and outcome of an operation.

c. practise under direct supervision basic procedures and techniques, i.e. insertion of Foley catheter, insertion of peripheral and central venous line, tying of surgical knots, use of surgical instruments, suturing of subcutaneous fat and skin.

d. practice repair of an inguinal hernia on a surgical simulator under the guidance of the module leader.

In addition, the students will be offered the opportunity to participate and assist in emergency out-of-hours operations. This will allow them to get better experience in acute surgical procedures. However, this part of the module is not going to be obligatory.

**Assessment:** Every student will be asked to perform a literature search and produce a written summary regarding the development and outcome of a modern surgical technique. The best reviews will be considered for submission for publication as review papers.

**Recommended Reading**

1. Basic Surgical Skills by David A. Sherris, 1999

2. Surgical Anatomy and Technique: A Pocket Manual by John E. Skandalakis, Panajiotis N. Skandalakis, and Lee John Skandalakis, 1999

3. Basic Surgical Operations (MRCS Study Guides) by M. E. Foster and Gareth Morris-Stiff, 2000

4. Essential General Surgical Operations by R. M. Kirk and Marc C. Winslet, 2001

5. Essential Surgical Skills by David A. Sherris and Eugene B. Kern, 2004

6. Surgical Talk: Revision in Surgery by Andrew Goldberg and Gerald Stansby 2005

7. Assisting at Surgical Operations: A Practical Guide (Cambridge Clinical Guides) by Comus Whalan, 2006

8. Surgical Complications Diagnosis and Treatment by Nadey S Hakim and Vassilios E Papalois, 2007

**Periods when the module is available:** 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13.

**Maximum number of students per period:** 2