

Flex Week Proposal:

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| Title | General Surgery Hands On | |
| Experience Category | Clinical shadowing | Professional Enrichment Courses (PECs) |
| [bold your category] | Professional Development | |
| Goal | Other: | |
| Goal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To understand General Surgery as a residency & specialty - To learn and practice basic suturing techniques - To learn the purpose of different suture types - To learn and practice basic knot tying techniques - To learn the names and purpose of basic surgical equipment - To learn basic OR etiquette - To introduce laparoscopy - To construct individual suture boards | |
| Brief Description | <p>Rationale and Need: While all students rotate through general surgery during their third year, there is a lack of practical OR preparation for pre-clinical medical students. This course is aimed for all students regardless of their current interest in a surgical career. This course will teach students how to be helpful in the operating room, and teach basic surgical techniques. Students will leave the course with foundational surgical skills and an understanding of how to practice these skills. This course will enable students to get more out of their shadowing experiences and facilitate purposeful surgical skills practice. Ultimately the course will help prepare all students for their surgery clerkship, and increase interest in general surgery as a career.</p> | |
| Organizer | Vaishali Schuchert, MD schuchertv@upmc.edu | |
| Student Coordinator (contact info) | Haris Rahman mor43@pitt.edu Charlotte Stahlfeld stahlfeld.charlotte@medstudent.pitt.edu Breana Franklin franklin.breana@medstudent.pitt.edu | |
| Department | Surgery | |
| Capacity (# students) | 5-8 students | |
| Location | TBD, multiple sites | |
| Maximum # of students | 8 | |
| Minimum # of students | 5 | |

| MS1 (Class of 2028) | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Week | Start Date (Mon) | End Date (Fri) | Available? |
| 5 | TUE 9/3/2024 | 9/6/2024 | |
| 12 | TUE 10/22/2024 | 10/25/2024 | |
| 26 | 1/27/2025 | 1/31/2025 | |
| 30 | 2/24/2025 | 2/28/2025 | Yes |
| 59 | 9/16/2025 | 9/20/2025 | |
| | | | |
| MS2 (Class of 2027) | | | |
| Week | Start Date (Mon) | End Date (Fri) | Available? |
| 59 | 9/16/24 | 9/20/24 | |
| 70 | 12/2/2024 | 12/6/2024 | |

Weekly Schedule (5 hours/day with 2 hours synchronous activity; Avg. 25 hours per week)

| | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| AM | | | | | |
| PM | | | | | |

Logistics And Educational Methods: This course will be available for 5-8 students per week. The course will meet daily M-Th from 4-7pm during flex weeks.

Evaluation of learning objectives will be achieved by a brief pre and post course survey. The weekly course schedule will be outlined below:

Monday: Orientation lecture about General Surgery as a specialty, basic knot tying, suture types, followed by simulated practice.

Tuesday: Lecture covering OR basics (scrubbing, instruments), pre-charting cases, and basic suturing, followed by simulated practice.

Wednesday: Lecture on laparoscopy followed by simulation and practice.

Thursday: Construction of personal suture boards for students to take home and practice knot tying & sewing.

Friday: OR time with general surgery attendings based on student interest. This day will be removed during holiday shortened weeks.

Requirements: Available to MS1s & MS2s during their Flex weeks.

Type of Clinical Experience: Active simulation work, OR experience

Call Required: None

Student Contact Hours: Per day: 3 Per week: 15

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|---|-----------------------------|
| <p>Schedule splitting:</p> <p>Would it be possible for students to take SOME of the weekly schedule (e.g., just mornings or just a few half-days), or would you prefer that a student take the schedule in its entirety?</p> <p>[bold your choice]</p> | <p>Full required</p> |
| <p>If so above, please designate which parts of your schedule this would impact</p> | |