

What do you see and do on your surgical rotation?

This document is designed to help you think about what you are going to see and learn about while on your surgical rotation. Partly it is to prepare you for what is coming, but more importantly it is to help you think about what you might want to learn more about during this rotation.

Go through the things you are likely to come across and give yourself a rating. This helps you think about the areas you might want to improve your proficiency. Have a think about what you want to learn more about, and how you are going to do that.

This list doesn't replace the unit handbook which you should look at, and it doesn't include some components of the assessment tool ([Click for Link to Intern Assessments](#)), which you should talk about so it is clear how you will be assessed.

Reflect on your skills at this stage, and give yourself a score.

- 1- Not done much
- 2- OK ish
- 3- Pretty good
- 4- Excellent

Common conditions seen in this rotation

Have you assessed these conditions before? How would you rate yourself using the 1-4 above?

Abdominal pain	1 2 3 4	Appendicitis, cholecystitis, pancreatitis, diverticulitis.
PR bleeding	1 2 3 4	Haemorrhoids are common, but often more complicated if admission is required
Diarrhoea or constipation	1 2 3 4	Both are common as a cause of admission, and constipation is frequent on the wards
Surgical complications	1 2 3 4	Pain, ileus or poorly functioning gut post operatively, infections
Pre anaesthetic assessment	1 2 3 4	Think about how to manage anticoagulation and diabetes pre operatively, and how cardiovascular and lung disease or other existing medical conditions may impact on surgery. There are procedures on PROMPT
Abnormal fluid balance	1 2 3 4	A common ward call
Abnormal electrolyte balance	1 2 3 4	A common ward call – Na, K, Mg most common.

Procedures commonly done in this rotation

Have you done these before? How would you rate yourself?

**to be assessed with 'direct observation of procedural skills' (DOPS) – discuss what DOPS you might be able to do this rotation. The DOPS that aren't common in this rotation are greyed out.*

Nasogastric tube insertion*	1 2 3 4	Venepuncture	1 2 3 4
Male urinary catheter insertion*	1 2 3 4	Oxygen administration	1 2 3 4
Female urinary catheter insertion*	1 2 3 4	Blood cultures	1 2 3 4
Cannulation*	1 2 3 4	Arterial and venous blood gas	1 2 3 4
Plastering *	1 2 3 4	Preparing for theatre (scrubbing)	1 2 3 4
Suturing*	1 2 3 4	Assisting in theatre	1 2 3 4

Common things to prescribe (in addition to management of above)

Are you comfortable prescribing these things? Mark yourself 1-4 as above

VTE prophylaxis	1 2 3 4
Analgesia	1 2 3 4
Insulin	1 2 3 4
Intravenous fluids	1 2 3 4
Electrolyte replacement	1 2 3 4

What do you want to get out of this rotation?

Goals for learning this rotation?

What can you do to achieve your goals?

How can your supervisor help you? Perhaps discuss this with them?