

# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENT ROTATING IN PRE-OPERATIVE ANESTHESIA CLINICS**

## **➊ Medical Expert**

- 1) Demonstrate sophisticated history-taking and physical examination technique geared towards a patient who will be undertaking surgery, while paying attention to comorbidities
- 2) Formulate an impression of the perioperative risk for the patient based on comorbidities and extent of surgery
- 3) Gain an understanding of cardiovascular and other effects of anaesthesia agents on the patients with underlying medical conditions
- 4) Develop expertise in preoperative optimization of pre-existing medical conditions such as COPD, coronary artery and valvular heart disease, hyperglycemia, adrenal insufficiency and neuromuscular disorders
- 5) Order appropriate preoperative blood tests and other investigations (example: dobutamine stress test in longstanding diabetic with other cardiac risk factors)
- 6) Know when to refer to subspecialists for additional preoperative optimization

## **➋ Communicator**

- 1) Present in a concise fashion the clinical findings, problem formulation and management plans relevant to preoperative patients
- 2) Competently discuss the perioperative risks with patients and families
- 3) Effectively relay management plans through succinct consultation letters to primary care physicians and other members of the health care team
- 4) Integrate assessments from other subspecialists involved in management of patient's chronic health problems and refer appropriately

## **➌ Collaborator**

- 1) Understand the importance of the multidisciplinary approach required in the management of the preoperative patient and contribute effectively to interdisciplinary team activities
- 2) Work effectively with nurses, patient educators, social workers, dieticians, pathologists and surgeons to optimize patient outcomes after surgery

## **➍ Manager**

- 1) Effectively coordinate the ambulatory preoperative assessment and management of patients, such as anticoagulant coverage, preventing costly hospital admissions
- 2) Demonstrate appropriate cost-effective choice of preoperative investigation while still focusing on optimal patient care and outcomes

## **⑤ Health Advocate**

- 1) Identify the medicosocial aspects of health care delivery for preoperative patients, such as anticipating homecare needs
- 2) Recognize and respond to opportunities to prevent and treat selected surgical complications such as by advising patient to quit smoking
- 3) Teach patient to appropriately manage pre-existing health conditions in the hours before surgery (example: withholding of certain medications, adjustment of steroid dosage and reduction of insulin dosage)

## **⑥ Scholar**

- 1) Use patient encounters as a stimulus for further reading and review of the current literature on preoperative assessment
- 2) Develop and apply skills in critical appraisal and the practice of evidence-based medicine
- 3) Facilitate patient education in the management of medical conditions

## **⑦ Professional**

- 1) Demonstrate effective, ethical medical care with integrity, honesty and compassion
- 2) Display appropriate professional behaviours and interpersonal skills