

Examination for Registration to Practice Medicine (ERPM)

Criterion based curriculum developed by the Academic Board in Surgery of the Sri Lanka Medical Council

Introduction

The surgical curriculum provides the frame work to guide the students to prepare for the ERPM examination.

Under each content area, the learning objectives, expected core knowledge and clinical skills required for the students to practice surgery at the level of an intern medical officer in Sri Lanka are highlighted.

Procedural skills are listed separately.

*It is expected that the student is competent in arriving at the most likely clinical diagnosis, assessment of the severity, deciding on the appropriate treatment strategy of **surgical emergencies and common surgical conditions at the level of an intern house officer.***

*It is also expected that, other than the diagnosis and treatment, the student understands the **need to communicate with patients & relatives respecting their dignity, rights, fears & anxieties, taking in to consideration the socio-economic, cultural, religious & educational background of the patients.***

Content areas

- Assessment of the acute abdomen
- Gastrointestinal haemorrhage
- Strangulated hernia
- Superficial sepsis including necrotizing infection
- Critically injured patient –ATLS approach
- Vascular emergencies
- Elective vascular conditions
- Conditions affecting the scrotum
- Conditions affecting the genito urinary system
- Elective hernia
- Endoscopy
- Oesophago-gastric disease
- Diseases of the Small bowel
- Hepato-pancreato-biliary disease
- Colonic and anorectal disease
- Endocrine glands and their diseases
- Conditions affecting the breast
- Diseases affecting the oral cavity and salivary glands
- Common skin and soft tissue conditions of surgical importance
- Bone and joint infection

Fractures and dislocations
Dying patient

ASSESSMENT OF THE ACUTE ABDOMEN

Learning objectives

Assessment, resuscitation and management of patients with acute abdomen

Core knowledge

Differential diagnosis
Treatment of intraperitoneal sepsis
Principles of management of bowel perforations
Principles of damage control surgery

Clinical skills

Clinical diagnosis
Resuscitation, antibiotic therapy
Management of associated medical conditions
Recognition of the indications for surgery

PERITONITIS

Learning objectives

Diagnosis and management of peritonitis

Core knowledge

Causes
Patho-physiology
Complications
Treatment of intraperitoneal sepsis and systemic sepsis

Clinical skills

History, examination and eliciting/interpreting physical signs
Clinical assessment of severity of the illness
Interpretation of investigations
Timing of intervention

GASTROINTESTINAL HAEMORRHAGE

Learning objectives

Diagnosis and emergency management of patients with acute gastro intestinal haemorrhage
Recognition of causes
Surgical treatment of GI bleeding and post-operative management
Management of complications of GI bleeding

