

Educational Objectives: LHSC-VH (HN) and (HN-L) – Senior Level (PGY-4/5)

The overall objective of this rotation will be to provide an in-depth exposure to Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery, Reconstructive Surgery, and Laryngology and to refine clinical skills related to these subspecialties. There will also be the expectation to demonstrate the ability to provide consultative services, office and emergency therapeutics, and ward care at an advanced level with increasing degree of autonomy. The resident will be expected to assume greater independence in performance operative procedures related to Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery, Reconstructive Surgery, and Laryngology.

Medical Expert

General Skills:

1. Participate in the post-operative ward and office management of patients who have undergone major head and neck ablative and reconstructive surgery
2. Demonstrate a sophisticated approach to imaging studies including independent interpretation of findings
3. Perform fine needle aspiration and core biopsy of neck lesions
4. Biopsy lesions of the nasal cavity, oral cavity, and skin
5. Insert or change a tracheoesophageal puncture prosthesis
6. Manage a complex wound (e.g. Incision and drainage of wound abscess, debridement, fistula packing)
7. Effectively manage pain associated with surgery and malignancy
8. Perform open and percutaneous tracheostomies
9. Provide effective counselling for patients regarding tracheotomy/stoma care

Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery:

1. Staging of head and neck cancer and approach to management
2. Understanding of the indications for radiation therapy and chemotherapy
3. Perform panendoscopy independently with accurate interpretation of findings
4. Perform lymph node and neck mass biopsy with limited consultant intervention
5. Perform salivary gland surgery (submandibular gland resection, parotidectomy) with limited consultant intervention
6. Perform excision of branchial cleft cysts and thyroglossal duct cysts with gradually decreasing degree of consultant intervention
7. Perform neck dissection with increasing degree of autonomy
8. Perform thyroidectomy, parathyroidectomy with limited consultant intervention
9. Perform transoral resections with and without laser
10. Perform medial maxillectomy with consultant supervision
11. Perform composite resection and laryngectomy with increasing degree of autonomy
12. Assist and understand the anatomy and steps of an anterior skull base resection

Reconstructive Surgery:

1. Demonstrate sophisticated understanding of the hierarchy of reconstructive options for defects in the head and neck
2. Formulate plan for reconstruction of head and neck defects with attention to form and function
3. Know the anatomy and indications for free and pedicled flaps for major head and neck reconstruction
4. Assist at microscopic nerve anastomosis
5. Assist in harvest of regional flaps and microvascular free flap
6. Diagnosis and treatment of facial nerve disorders and reanimation strategies

Laryngology:

1. Perform rigid laryngoscopy and videostroboscopy
2. Participate actively in the Voice Lab including focused history and relevant physical examination
3. Develop a differential diagnosis and management plan for dysphonia
4. Develop a differential diagnosis and management plan for dysphagia
5. Diagnose and manage common pathology of the larynx
6. Spasmodic dysphonia including diagnosis and treatment (e.g. Botox)
7. Care of the professional voice in a specialty clinic
8. Management of vocal cord paralysis including investigation, medical therapy, and surgical therapy
9. Perform thyroplasty and other laryngeal framework surgeries with limited consultant supervision
10. Perform transoral vocal fold augmentation in the operating room with limited consultant supervision
11. Understand the indications for and the role of percutaneous clinic-based vocal fold augmentation
12. Perform suspension microlaryngoscopy with laser, cold instruments, and microdebrider with limited consultant supervision
13. Perform endoscopic Zenker's diverticulotomy with increasing degree of autonomy
14. Perform endoscopic airway surgery (e.g. cordotomy, laser dilation) with increasing degree of autonomy
15. Understand and interpret findings related to modified barium swallow and functional endoscopic evaluation of swallowing and the role of SLP's in the management of swallowing disorders

Communicator

1. Demonstrate effective establishment of therapeutic relationships with patients and their families
2. Present histories, physical findings, and management plan to consultants in an organized, efficient, and confident manner
3. Obtain and synthesize relevant history from patients, their families, and communities
4. Prepare clear, accurate, concise, appropriately detailed clinical notes, consultation notes, discharge summaries, and operative reports

5. Discuss more complex procedures (e.g. laryngectomy, composite resection) with patients and their families in a clear and understandable form including risks/benefits, informed consent, and post-operative care
6. Prepare, participate, and present effectively in organized rounds and seminars

Collaborator

1. Identify the situations and instances where consultation of other physicians or health care professional is useful or appropriate
2. Demonstrate collegial and professional relationships with other physicians, office and clinic support staff, operating room personnel, and emergency room staff
3. Recognize the expertise and role of allied health professionals

Manager

1. Utilize resources effectively to balance patient care duties, learning needs, educational/teaching responsibilities and outside activities
2. Allocate finite health care resources in a wise, equitable, and ethical fashion
3. Utilise information technology to optimize patient care and life-long learning including facile use of hospital IT resources (e.g. filmless radiology, electronic charting)
4. Demonstrate an appreciation of the importance of quality assurance/improvement
5. Actively participate in preparation, presentation, analysis, and reporting of morbidity and mortality rounds
6. Accurately identify criteria for patient admission to hospital in the urgent/emergent situation as well as the implications of such decisions

Health Advocate

1. Recognize and respond to opportunities for advocacy within Otolaryngology, both for your patients as well as for the community in which we practice
2. Demonstrate familiarity with important determinants of health relevant to Head and Neck Surgery such as smoking, alcohol consumption and HPV infection.

Scholar

1. Actively participate in the teaching of medical students (didactic, in clinics, and on wards/in OR)
2. Facilitate learning in patients and other health professionals
3. Actively participate in preparation and presentation of weekly Grand Rounds
4. Demonstrate a critical appraisal of research methodology, biostatistics, and the medical literature as part of monthly Journal Clubs
5. Practice the skill of self-assessment
6. Develop, implement, and monitor a personal educational strategy and seek guidance for this educational strategy as appropriate
7. Demonstrate the evolving commitment to, and the ability to practice, life-long learning
8. Contribute to the development of new knowledge through participation in clinical or basic research studies
9. Demonstrate commitment to evidence based standards for care of common problems in Otolaryngology

10. Actively participate in weekly academic half-day seminar series including advance preparation for the topic(s)

Professional

1. Deliver highest quality care with integrity, honesty, and compassion
2. Exhibit appropriate professional and interpersonal behaviours
3. Practice medicine and Otolaryngology in an ethically responsible manner
4. Recognize limitations and seek assistance as necessary
5. Seek out and reflect on constructive criticism of performance
6. Endeavour to develop an appropriate balance between personal and professional life to promote personal physical and mental health/well-being as an essential to effective, life-long practice

