



University of Benghazi
Faculty of Medicine
Internal Medicine Course Specification



The Course of Surgery (1517)

Course description

Surgery is the branch of medicine that is concerned with the treatment of disease, injury, and deformity by operation or manipulation to improve understanding of disease and its safe and effective treatment. Students are prepared in such a way that they can develop clinical acumen, make effective communication, undertake leadership challenges, and demonstrate certain manipulative skills through the training program to become safe and competent surgeons. So that at the end of the course, they can build rapport with patients, colleagues, and supporting staff, thoroughly evaluate the patient clinically, perform relevant investigations and interpret reports, and initiate initial management of trauma patients. Teaching is delivered through lectures, tutorials, bedside clinics, and practical demonstrations. Students are assessed periodically through written exams and end-term exams. Such formative assessments constitute the set-up criteria for the final summative professional examination.

The course of surgery has a duration of 377 contact hours and is taught in the fourth and fifth years, with a year of compulsory residency; finally, the graduate is awarded a certificate, Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBChB).

1. The Course's overall Objectives:

This course aims to provide community-oriented and need-based education to produce basic doctors who can meet the demands of the country. *At the end of the course, the student should be able to:*

1. Provide the student with the knowledge and skills they require to identify, analyze, manage, and/or refer to clinical surgical problems to provide efficient, cost-effective, and humane patient care.
2. Provide the student with an appropriate background covering the common and/or important surgical emergencies as required for continuous learning.
3. Enable the student to detect cancer at an early stage and understand the role of palliative care.
4. Recognize the major surgical problems needing specialized care, initiate primary treatment, and refer to appropriate centers.
5. Enable the development and application of appropriate professional attitudes, ethical principles, and communication and teamwork skills.

2. Learning outcomes:

2.1 Knowledge and understanding skills: On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Describe the aetiology, pathophysiology, prevalence, and clinical manifestations of common and important diseases and disorders.
2. Develop critical attitudes in judging the value of surgical management in comparison to less invasive ones.
3. Describe the clinical picture, investigations, and differential diagnosis of the various common and important surgical diseases and disorders.
4. Describe the principles of operative intervention, including indications for intervention, preoperative preparation, principles of general and local anesthesia, principles of operations, and postoperative care and complications.
5. Describe early prevention and the prophylaxis and treatment of the various common and important surgical diseases and disorders, as well as palliative care for untreatable surgical conditions.
6. Recognize the basics of surgical ethics, morals, and social concerns associated with surgical practice.

2.2 Intellectual skills: By the end of the program, the graduate will have acquired the skills required to:

1. Detect life-threatening situations and understand the significance of making thorough, precise, and timely decisions to *interpret* the laboratory, radiological, and diagnostic procedure results.
2. Integrate basic anatomical, physiological, and pathological facts with clinical data.
3. Integrate the results obtained from history, clinical examination, and investigational data into a meaningful diagnostic formulation.
4. Combine clinical and investigational data with evidence-based knowledge and the skill of deductive reasoning for clinical problem-solving.
5. Select the most appropriate and cost-effective diagnostic and therapeutic procedure for each problem.
6. Recognize and cope with uncertainty by accepting and reacting to uncertain situations through proper counseling, consultation, and referral.

2.3 Practical and Clinical Skills:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of taking and recording a structured patient-centered history in acute and chronic conditions.
2. Perform a full physical examination appropriate to age and gender in acute and chronic clinical conditions, and order appropriate investigations.
3. Construct an appropriate management plan for patients with common and important surgical diseases.
4. Observe the rotation across surgical specialties, which enables long-term relationships to ensure consistency.

2.4 General and transferable skills: By the end of the program, the graduate will acquire the skills required to:

1. Control the situation where communication is challenging, especially if they're working with anxious or depressed individuals.
2. Communicate effectively with patients, colleagues, and teachers.
3. Manage time and resources effectively and set priorities.

4. Work effectively within a multidisciplinary team with active participation.
5. Use efficient biomedical information to remain current with advances in knowledge and practice.
6. Adopt the principles of lifelong learning needs for the medical profession.

3. Teaching and Learning Methods:

1. Illustrated lectures
2. Bedside Clinical Teaching Classes
3. Staff Ward's Rounds
4. Tutorial (*small group discussion*) sessions

4. Methods of Assessment:

- MCQs and true/false questions (*to assess the cognitive domain*);
- Slides' examination and bedside clinical examination (*to assess cognitive and clinical skills*);
- Oral/Viva Voce Examination (*to assess the cognitive domain*).

5. List of References: Textbooks and Notebooks:

1. **Bailey & Love's Short Practice of Surgery**, Norman S. Williams, Ronan O'Connell McCaskie, 27th Edition
2. **Browse's Introduction to the Symptoms & Signs of Surgical Disease**, James A. Gossage, Matthew F. Bultitude, Steven A. Corbett, 5th Edition
3. **Hamilton Bailey's Demonstration of Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery**, John Lumley, Anil K D'Cruz, Jamal JHoballah, Carol E H Scott-Conner, 19th Edition
4. **General Surgery Lecture Notes**, Harold Ellis, Sir Roy Calne, Christopher Watson, 13th Edition