Training Programme (essential elements)
Clinical Practical Year (CPY)
at Medical University of Vienna, Austria

CPY-Tertial C

Visceral Surgery

Valid from academic year 2014/15

Responsible for the content
Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Martin Schindl

This training programme applies to the subject of “Visceral Surgery” within CPY tertial C "Electives". The training programmes for the elective subjects in CPY tertial C are each designed for a duration of 8 weeks. If the subject in CPY tertial C is being completed over a period of 16 weeks, the specified content shall be treated in greater depth.
3. Learning objectives (competences)

The following skills must be acquired or deepened in the subject of Visceral Surgery during the CPY.

3.1 Competences to be achieved (mandatory)

A) History taking
   1. Taking a targeted, hypothesis-directed history
   2. Current complaints, reason for the planned treatment
   3. Family history

B) Performance of examination techniques
   4. Assessment of vital functions (body temperature, respiration, pulse rate, blood pressure, venous pressure)
   5. Examination of the abdomen (inspection, palpation and auscultation), including checking for tenderness on palpation, rebound tenderness and guarding
   6. Assessment of skin and mucous membranes (signs of anemia, cyanosis, jaundice, edema, dehydration)
   7. Eliciting abdominal fluid thrill (ascites)
   8. Testing for inguinal hernia by inspection and palpation (also during increased abdominal pressure) of groin / hernial orifices
   9. Examination of the inguinal region for hernia
10. External inspection and palpation of (peri)anal area
11. Assessment of patients with medical emergencies and after trauma
12. Rectal examination
13. Attaching a pulse oximeter and interpreting the results
14. Assessment and discussion of radiological findings in a clinical context
15. Identifying superficial wound healing problems
16. Identifying deep wound healing problems
17. Identification of post-operative bleeding
18. Assessment of perioperative fluid balance
19. Participation in the diagnosis of suspected deep vein thrombosis / pulmonary embolism
20. Participation in the diagnosis in melena
21. Participation in the diagnosis in dysphagia
22. Participation in the diagnosis and treatment of suspected appendicitis
23. Examination in the case of diagnosis of suspected appendicitis
24. Participation in the diagnosis in the case of suspected biliary colic
25. Participation in the diagnosis in the case of suspected ileus
26. Participation in the diagnosis in the case of suspected acute abdomen
27. Participation in the diagnosis in the case of suspected colorectal cancer
C) Performance of routine skills and procedures
   28. Stopping hemorrhage (direct pressure, pressure points, pressure bandage, tourniquet)
   29. Using appropriate hand hygiene at the workplace
   30. Removal of wound sutures
   31. Application of a bandage
   32. Preparation to watch / to assist in operating theatre (scrub-up, gown up, put on sterile gloves, etc.)
   33. Handling a central venous catheter
   34. Pre-operative preparation of operative field for minor surgery, asepsis and antisepsis
   35. Wound cleaning
   36. Stitching of skin incisions and lacerations
   37. Application of local anaesthesia
   38. Correct removal of drains
   39. Correct removal of a central venous catheter
   40. Inserting a nasogastric tube
   41. Positioning a peripheral permanent venous cannula
   42. Performing a post-operative dressing change and wound cleaning

D) Therapeutic measures
   43. Treatment of superficial wound healing problems
   44. Treatment of deep wound healing problems
   45. Treatment of post-operative bleeding
   46. Perioperative fluid balance prescription
   47. Participation in the treatment of deep vein thrombosis / pulmonary embolism
   48. Participation in the treatment of appendicitis
   49. Participation in the treatment of symptomatic gallstones
   50. Participation in the treatment of ileus
   51. Participation in the treatment of acute abdomen of varying aetiology
   52. Participation in the surgical treatment of colorectal cancer
   53. Suture or clips after an operation
   54. Layered closure of the abdominal wall
   55. Incision and drainage of an infected surgical wound
   56. Puncture and drainage of a pleural effusion
   57. Perioperative management of cardiovascular risk factors
   58. Performance of measures for secondary wound healing (e.g. VAC system)
   59. Prescribing measures in treatment of pain, palliative and end-of-life care
E) Communication with patient/team (information/management)

60. Communicating with severely ill patients
61. Elaborating a clinical question and searching for its solution in the literature
62. Informing colleagues and other professionals on findings and checking understanding
63. Providing information to patients and relatives in an ethically correct and professional manner in compliance with legal requirements and ensuring that the patient has understood the information
64. Giving necessary information and obtaining informed consent
65. Breaking bad news to patients and family (simulated situation)
66. Working in a multidisciplinary team
67. Summarizing the main points of diagnoses, active problems and management plans of a patient
68. Clarifying with nursing staff monitoring measures and calling criteria concerning patients
69. Managing patients with contradictory investigation results
70. Discussing diagnoses/prognoses with patients

F) Documentation (information/management)

71. Recording findings in patient file
72. Filling in prescription forms
73. Filling out a requisition for instrumental investigations (lab tests, imaging)
74. Writing letters for transfer or discharge of patient
75. Filling in a death certificate and/or preparing an autopsy request (simulated situation)
76. Diagnostic coding
77. Information request in hospital information system

4. Information on verification of performance, on-going assessments

4.1 The following aspects can be assessed in the Mini-CEX:

1. Taking a medical history
2. Clinical examination on admission to hospital and/or in the case of acute symptoms
3. Clinical examination and assessment of the abdomen
4. Giving relevant information to patient for surgical procedure, endoscopy, intervention
5. Personally registering a patient for an examination/intervention (e.g. CT), explaining the indication and request, current history and possible risk factors to the responsible doctor
6. Case presentation during ward teaching rounds (information on active status)
7. Identification of possible risk factors for surgery / anaesthetic and appropriate clarification
8. Perioperative fluid balance prescription and interpretation
9. Pre-operative evaluation of the nutrition situation and prescribing a post-operative nutrition schedule
11. Carrying out an assessment algorithm for an acutely ill patient
12. Giving information to a patient about a planned surgical procedure / anaesthetic procedure

4.2 The following skills can be assessed in the DOPS

1. Removal of sutures and clips
2. Removing drains
3. Post-operative wound treatment
4. Performing a suture
5. Preparation of a bodily region for operation (washing and covering)
6. Surgical hand disinfection
7. Handling a central venous catheter
8. Removing a central venous catheter