

Dalhousie University Neurosurgery

Resident Rotation Objectives: Thoracic Surgery

Medical Expert

As a basis for clinical competence, the neurosurgery resident must be familiar with, and be able to describe, discuss, and perform (as appropriate):

1. An understanding of the anatomy of the thorax and its contents.
2. Ability to perform thoracentesis and placement of a chest tube.
3. An understanding of the indications and principles associated with trans-thoracic approaches to the spine.
4. Proficiency with interpretation of chest radiographs.
5. Indications, relevant anatomy, and potential complications associated with performance of a tracheostomy.

Communicator

1. Establish therapeutic relationships with patients and their families.
2. Document appropriate histories, physical examinations, and progress notes.
3. Provide information to patients and their families that will support their involvement in decision-making.
4. Prepare written documentation for consulting physicians in a clear, concise, and collegial manner.

Collaborator

1. Consult effectively with other physicians (referring physicians and other specialists) as well as other health care professionals (including nurses, social workers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists, audiologists, respiratory therapists, psychologists, orthotists, and child life specialists).
2. Contribute to interdisciplinary activities as needed.

Leader

1. The neurosurgical resident must learn to manage their time effectively in order to prioritize clinical activities, learning needs, administrative responsibilities, and research endeavours.
2. The neurosurgical resident should be prepared to provide advice on the efficient use of resources (including diagnostic imaging, inter-hospital transfers, and hospital admission) for patients who have lung cancer.

Health Advocate

1. Secure the necessary resources to evaluate and treat patients who have lung cancer.
2. Use available resources to assist with patients' educational, socio-economic, and psychological challenges.

Scholar

1. Demonstrate self-directed learning with critical appraisal of relevant literature.
2. Facilitate the learning of patients and their families, colleagues, and other health care professionals.

Professional

1. Demonstrate the characteristics of integrity, honesty, compassion, and ethical conduct.
2. Meets deadlines, is punctual, monitors patients according to the needs of their condition, and provides follow-up.
3. Understands any limitations of knowledge or skill, accepts constructive feedback, and corrects deficiencies appropriately.