OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOALS FOR INTEGRATED VASCULAR SURGERY RESIDENCY AT THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The overall goals of the integrated 5 year training program in vascular surgery are consistent with those of the Department of Surgery in the training and education of surgeons capable of practicing surgery in the community. These goals of the residency program fall under the scope of the College of Medicine and the Medical University of South Carolina. As such, the mission statements of these higher levels of organization record and directly reflect those overall goals of the Vascular Surgery Integrated Residency, as organized along the lines of the AGME’s six general competencies.

Patient Care:

“The University serves the citizens of South Carolina and the nation by providing an environment for learning and discovery through… provision of health care at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels…to all citizens.”

“The College of Medicine … is dedicated to the University’s… service missions. Through its faculty, the College serves as a source of high-quality, specialized medical services for the citizens of South Carolina and the region.”

Medical Knowledge:

“The University serves the citizens of South Carolina and the nation by providing an environment for learning and discovery through the education of health care professionals….”

The College of Medicine, as an integral part of the Medical University of South Carolina… is dedicated to the University’s… education missions. The College provides an environment for students and residents to learn and discover through educational experiences in the basic and clinical sciences… The College is committed to excellence and a leadership role in biomedical research, extending the boundaries of knowledge to benefit all people.”

Interpersonal and Communication Skills:

“The University strives for eminence in areas of health education, patient services, and biomedical research. The University serves as a resource of South Carolina by addressing the provision of health care services to all citizens.”

Professionalism

“The University strives for eminence in areas of health education, patient services, and biomedical research.”

“The College provides an environment for students and residents to learn and discover through educational experiences in the basic and clinical sciences…and to prepare them
for a career of lifelong excellence... in service to their communities. In addition, the College provides continuing education programs... to promote excellence”

**Practice-based learning**

“The College provides an environment for students and residents to learn and discover... and to prepare them for a career of lifelong excellence in the practice of medicine. In addition, the College provides continuing education programs... to promote excellence”

**Systems-based Learning**

“The University furthers the economic development of the state by introducing new medical technology, fostering educational and research linkages with industry, and providing employment for many of the state’s citizens. While the university receives financial support from the state, it maximizes the use of other resources, including those it generates for its own operations.”

“The College is committed to the prudent use and development of its resources to achieve its mission utilizing federal, state, industrial, clinical and philanthropic sources. Recognizing people as its most important resource, the College strives to develop the full potential of each individual; faculty, students, residents, and staff alike”.

In this broad context, the intent of the integrated 5 year program at the Medical University of South Carolina is commensurate with Department of Surgery, College of Medicine, and University goals as described above. Specifically, we intend to produce well-rounded trainees in all aspects of vascular surgery, leading to the development of thoughtful, ethical, and highly competent independent practitioners of the specialty. Our more specific major goals are to provide incremental and progressive, multidisciplinary training in **patient care** for vascular surgery, general surgery, and relevant surgical/interventional radiology/medicine and sub-specialties during a 5-year training program to include both core surgery (CS) and vascular surgery (VS). The vascular surgery faculty has designed a program that will provide increasing responsibility in **patient care** under direct attending supervision, in the outpatient clinics, inpatient settings and the operating room.

Core surgery rotations during the PGY1 and PGY-2 years will focus on **patient care** and acquisition of **medical knowledge** in the basic care of surgical patients by learning history and physical examination skills, diagnostic testing, patient assessment and patient management skills for preoperative and postoperative care in both an outpatient and inpatient clinical setting. The acquisition of **medical knowledge** will be facilitated by basic science and clinical conferences, self-directed study, and one-on-one interaction with faculty and fellow residents. Core rotations will include general surgery, oncologic surgery, orthopedics, and trauma to develop basic surgical assessment, technical, and management skills. **Interpersonal and communication skills** will be developed concomitantly by observation, mentorship, experience and interaction with peers, faculty and other ancillary personnel, at this and every subsequent level. **Practice based learning** will be accomplished by self-directed study, journal club participation, and exposure to current and historic literature, professional conferences, and assessment
through in-training examinations. Midlevel experience/training during PGY2 and PGY3 years will focus on **patient care** management of critically ill patients through development of fundamental operative skills and increasing medical knowledge of specific vascular disease processes. Rotations will include intensive care unit rotations which will include lessons regarding **Systems Based Learning** in terms of costs, utility, assessment of outcomes and quality issues. Furthermore, solid organ transplant surgery, trauma, and cardiothoracic and general surgery rotations at a more advanced level will involve **patient care** at a more complex decision – making level, commensurate with their developing skill sets. Increasing **medical knowledge** of critical care will translate directly into **patient care**, both in and outside of the operating room. CT surgery will allow exposure to sternotomy, thoracotomy, and aortic arch surgery as well as coronary bypass. Senior resident experience in both general and vascular surgery will occur during the PGY 4 year with rotations on the Interventional Radiology where nuances of technical expertise will be attained and additional experience regarding **Systems Based Learning** in terms of costs, utility, assessment of outcomes and quality issues including radiation safety, will be emphasized. The importance and role of **Professionalism, Practice Based Learning, and Systems Based Practice** will be especially apparent during rotations at Roper Hospital, which allows exposure to private practice setting.

A total of 36 months will be spent on vascular surgery rotations, and 24 months on core general surgery or surgical/medical subspecialty rotations. The schedule has been designed to appropriately interact with current general surgery, intensive care unit, interventional radiology, as well as cardiothoracic surgery, and transplant surgery at the appropriate training levels to optimize resident education and experience for a total of 6-months experience as the senior resident on these rotations. This will contribute to development of additional **interpersonal and communication skills**, as well as **professionalism and practice based learning**. The PGY5 year is exclusively a “chief resident” experience in dedicated vascular/endovascular rotations which will allow refinement in **patient care**, judgment, surgical technique, and efficiency.