

CONFERENCES

The [AUA curriculum](#) for residency training has been adopted as the official guide for training at our institution. Didactic conferences with close interaction between faculty, residents, and medical students are hallmarks of effective teaching. Incorporation of the AUA Curriculum and ACGME requirements has led to an amalgamation of the didactic presentations, journal club and the 'pyelogram' conference with a focus on updated topical knowledge. The Department of Urology provides a rich calendar of such learning opportunities designed, not only to address the ACGME mandated competencies of Patient Care, Medical Knowledge, Practice-Based Learning, Interpersonal Communication Skills, Professionalism, and Systems-Based Practice, but also prepare them for all portions of Part I of the American Board of Urology Examination. Conferences are designed to heighten the residents' understanding of, and promote participation in research taking place at the institution, as well as to familiarize them more intimately with the different urologic subspecialties. Exposure to the local private practice urologists helps the trainee to better make decisions regarding their options for fellowship and/or academic practice after residency versus a private practice career. The Department provides membership in the AUA for the residents. This allows access to the AUA Curriculum and the Journal of Urology. Campbell's Urology is available on-line through the University Library System. Additional texts, subscriptions, the AUA Update Series, and other educational materials can be purchased with educational funds provided by the department.

All conferences are posted in the monthly conference schedule. The urology schedule is also posted on-line for ready access dates, times, locations, and any changes. To access the on-line calendar, go to: http://urology.uthscsa.edu/conf_schedule_current.html click on the top of the list of calendars and it will take you to the previous or next month.

Policy on Conferences

Conference time is protected educational time for the residents. As such, any activities of patient care (floor rounds, elective cases, etc) should be scheduled in such a way that the entire resident team for all services is free during that time. Elective cases should be scheduled after conference or arrangements made to have other assistance until the residents are available.

Mandatory Attendance:

Attendance records will be kept for all conferences. It is expected that all residents will attend the scheduled conferences on Mondays and Fridays as well as the Pathology conference on the first Tuesday and Journal Club on the fourth Wednesdays.

Residents on non-San Antonio rotations, on vacation or other approved leave are not required to attend but are responsible for the content of the conference topic. If emergency situations arise, the educational benefit of the conference should be taken into account in triaging personnel. In general, the more junior residents would likely benefit most from conference; the more senior resident on service would likely be able to handle the urgency more efficiently and be able to return to conference sooner. Chief residents on each service are responsible for resident

triage in these situations. Residents leaving conference are still responsible for the conference content.

The Wednesday Pre-op conference is designed to discuss planned cases for Pediatrics, UH, Santa Rosa and the VA. The Methodist team should attend if not busy with cases.

Teaching Conferences:

Urology Curriculum Conference

Time/Location: 1st, 2nd Monday of every month at 07:00 – 08:30

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Format: Lectures, Case Presentations and Journal Article Reviews

Responsible Faculty: Various Faculty Assigned

Residents, Fellows, Faculty and invited speakers from UTHSCSA or other academic institutions review the topic for which they are recognized experts. Case presentations are used to solidify the clinical relevance of the topic and finally, relevant current journal articles are reviewed to complete the topic of discussion.

Case Conference:

Time: 3rd Monday of every month 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Dharam Kaushik, MD

The format of this conference will be similar to part II of the ABU examination. Interesting cases will be presented in the board format and the residents will work through the case. Emphasis will be on knowledge of AUA guidelines and recommendations. 2-3 cases will be presented per conference.

Pediatric Urology Conference

Time/Location: 4th Monday of every month at 07:00 – 08:30

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Jeff Leslie, MD; Juan Prieto, MD and Timothy Phillips, MD

Format: Lectures, Case Presentations and Journal Article Reviews

After a lecture, interesting and challenging cases are presented by senior residents to others unfamiliar with the specific details. Residents are encouraged to develop a methodical approach to evaluation, management and problem solving. Their core pediatric urology knowledge is tested as well as their ability to ‘think on their feet’ in working through the case. The faculty in attendance are encouraged to use a variety of teaching methods to bring out the salient issues and areas of controversy. One to two cases are presented per conference. The conference concludes with discussion of relevant current journal articles.

Preoperative Planning Case Conference:

Time: 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, PhD, MD

Format: All Adult and Pediatric elective surgical cases from the VA, Santa Rosa, Pediatrics and University Hospital for the following week are presented at pre-op planning conference. The residents present cases from each of the corresponding rotations. Residents compile the patient history, present requisite radiology studies, and discuss the proposed treatment planning including the operative approach. The indications, alternatives, potential additional studies required, and expected surgical outcomes of selected cases are discussed with input from all faculty. A short didactic review of a pertinent topic is presented periodically to emphasize teaching points. The latter is usually presented by the MS-3 or MS-4 on the service.

Complications Conference:

Time/Location: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 07:00 – 08:30

Frequency: Monthly

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, PhD, MD

Format: All Adult and Pediatric Morbidity and Mortality cases are presented by residents on the corresponding rotations. The clinical course, complication, and outcome are presented followed by discussion by all faculty and residents to designate any point in the clinical course that the complication could have been avoided, what actions could have prevented or minimized the complication, and how to prevent such complications in the future. A modified version of the VA QA Case reporting form is used to report the group consensus and identify systems-based problems that may contribute to future problems. The conference concludes with review of chapters from Taneja's Complications of Urologic Surgery text and any current relevant journal articles.

Journal Club:

Time: 4th Wednesday of every month 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Various Faculty rotating monthly

This conference resurrects the Journal Club but presents focused education on reading the literature including focused skills on biostatistics and interpretation of studies. Current literature is also reviewed in the curriculum presentations. Journal Club will be reformatted this year to allow a thorough review of the major areas of urology. Each area will be reviewed by a team including an attending staff, a junior and a senior resident. They will be responsible for reviewing all of the major journals for their topic and presenting a short review and one or two key articles to the group each month.

Neurourology and Female Urology Conference:

Frequency: 2nd and 4th Friday of every month

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Stephen Kraus, MD

The series covers the broad range of lower GU tract dysfunction with emphasis on evaluation through urodynamics. An introductory lecture to the principals and technical aspects of urodynamics is followed by subsequent lectures in which the clinical histories of patients with voiding dysfunction are presented and tracings, values, and fluoroscopic images of their urodynamic testing are displayed. Residents are called upon to interpret the urodynamics. Once a consensus interpretation is agreed upon, another resident may be called upon to propose treatment plans. These suggestions are discussed and potential alternatives presented. Typically, 2-4 cases are discussed over the course of the hour. A literature review completes the sessions covering pertinent new journal articles.

Uro-Oncology Conference:

Frequency: 1st, 3rd Friday of every month at 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Dr. Michael Liss, Dr. Dharam Kaushik, and the Uro-Oncology Faculty

Format: Lectures are presented by Residents, UTHSCSA faculty, the SUO Fellow and invited guest faculty. Often these lectures are scheduled to reinforce the information in the Campbell's textbook. Current literature reviews and case presentations add timeliness and clinical relevance to the presentations.

Pathology Conference:

Time: 1st Tuesday of every month 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Urology Conference Room in the Medical School (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Jamie Furman, MD

A designated Pathology faculty presents specimens from surgical cases with discussion of histologic features, common treatment and outcomes expectations. This provides the residents with unique continuity of care experience.

Combined Tumor Board:

Time: 1st and 3rd Wednesday 17:00 – 18:00

Location: (Various rooms) Medical School

Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, PhD, MD; Rob Svatek, MD

This conference focuses on discussion of complex cases in Urologic Oncology. A true multidisciplinary conference, the medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, radiologists and urologists discuss cases presented by the residents and fellows. The conference functions in direct patient care activities and as a sounding board for resident questions and direction.

VA Tumor Board:

Time: 2nd Wednesday 16:00 – 17:00

Location: VA pathology Conference Room

Responsible Faculty: Dr. Joseph W. Basler, MD; Dr. Javier Hernandez, MD, Michael Liss, MD

Format: Case discussion.

This conference incorporates the more traditional approach of discussing all of the new cancer diagnoses for the prior month. A clinical database of cases for QI purposes will be maintained.

GME Competency Series

Time: Quarterly and On-line

Location: Medical School

Responsible Faculty: Dr. Jennifer Peel, PhD (Anesthesiology)

Format: Lecture, discussion

This monthly conference covers topics related to GME requirements and core competency lectures.

Translational Science Conference:

Time: 2nd Friday 17:00 – 18:00

Location: CTRC

Responsible Faculty: Ian M. Thompson, MD.

Format: Discussion

This monthly conference reviews all currently open clinical trials and serves as a sounding board for new ideas and trial concepts. Residents are encouraged to attend and become familiar with available trials at their respective institutions.

Research Conference:

Time: 5th Monday 07:00 – 08:00

Location: Urology Conference Room (238A)

Responsible Faculty: Ron Rodriguez, MD, PhD; Robin Leach, PhD

Format: Discussion, Lab Research Presentations, Idea Generation

This periodic conference will highlight the research efforts of the scientific faculty and help to encourage new ideas and projects.

Urology Conference Schedule 2015-2016 rev 06-07-2015						
January, March, May, July, September, November						
DAY	TIME	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week
Monday	07:00 - 08:30	Trauma & Reconstruction	Reproductive, Sexual Med., Infertility	Case Conference	Pediatric Urology	Research
Tuesday	07:00 - 08:00	Pathology		Faculty Meeting		
Wednesday	06:30 - 07:00	GME Series				
	07:00 - 08:00	Pre-op (UH, VA, SLB, SR)	Morbidity and Mortality	Pre-op (UH, VA, SLB, SR)	Journal Club	Pre-op (UH, VA, SLB, SR)
	17:00 - 18:00	Tumor Board	Tumor Board	Tumor Board		
Friday	07:00 - 08:00	UroOncology	Voiding Dysfunction, Female, UDS	UroOncology	Voiding Dysfunction, Female, UDS	Resident Meeting
February, April, June, August, October, December						
DAY	TIME	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	5th Week
Monday	07:00 - 08:30	General Urology, BPH, Infections, etc	Calculus Dis, Endourology	Case Conference	Pediatric Urology	Research
Tuesday	07:00 - 08:00	Pathology		Faculty Meeting		
Wednesday	06:30 - 07:00	GME Series				
	07:00 - 08:00	Pre-op (UH, VA, SLB, SR)	Morbidity and Mortality	Pre-op (UH, VA, SLB, SR)	Journal Club	Pre-op (UH, VA, SLB, SR)
	17:00 - 18:00	Tumor Board	Tumor Board	Tumor Board		
Friday	06:45 - 08:00	UroOncology	Voiding Dysfunction, Female, UDS	UroOncology	Voiding Dysfunction, Female, UDS	Resident Meeting

Format for the Monday Topic Conferences will be to include Lectures/Case Presentations/Journal Articles and other formats as appropriate.

Format for the Friday Conferences will be Lectures/Interactive UDS-VUDS/Journal Articles and other formats as needed but not necessarily on same day.

M&M Conference will include case presentations from all hospital and clinic sites and one didactic presentation on GU Complications.

Journal Club will be reformatted to allow a thorough review of the major areas of urology. Each area will be reviewed by a team including an attending staff, a junior and a senior resident. They will be responsible for reviewing all of the major journals for their topic and presenting a short review and one or two key articles to the group each month.

Additional Resources:

Procedure Lab

Time: Varies

Location: 221E – Johnson Center, Others

Responsible Faculty: All

This is a new resource being developed at the medical center (including the Johnson Center for Surgical Learning in the Surgery Department at UTHSCSA) that emphasizes development of technical skills and patient safety in various areas of Urology. The Urology skills lab is in the planning stages but will eventually meet weekly for demonstration and training in selected aspects of urologic procedures and surgery. The most recent application has been in development of the Resident Boot Camp designed to develop basic surgical skills and competence in bedside and clinical procedures for the most junior residents who are coming onto the Urology services (U-1 year). In the past, an endoscopic skills lab brought in representatives from several companies involved in the manufacture of urologic equipment and supplies. Each representative provided equipment and instruction on a one-on-one basis so that the resident could more clearly understand its function and safe use. This included training in Holmium laser systems, ureteroscopic devices, cystoscopic resection/biopsy devices and various stents. Another effort included a one-on-one, hands-on demonstration and skills training in basic robotics technique (suturing, basic dissection, etc.) utilizing the DaVinci Robotics unit at UH and SRMC and the VA.

Research Lab Conference

Time: Weekly on Mondays at 08:00 – 09:00

Location: Medical School

Responsible Faculty: Research Faculty

The research faculty members meet to discuss both the clinical and basic research activities in the department. While mostly administrative, there are presentations of data and updates on pertinent clinical and basic science topics presented periodically. Resident participation is optional but encouraged for residents with research interests.

Urology San Antonio Case Conference:

Time: Fridays Biweekly

Location: Private Office of Urology San Antonio

Responsible Faculty: Dr. Roy Jones

Format: Case presentation, Discussion.

This conference is held in the offices of the private practice group associated with Methodist Hospital. Attending surgeons present interesting cases for group discussion and recommendations. Residents on the Methodist rotation are encouraged to attend and discuss their perspectives on the cases.

Urodynamics Course:

Time: Annually

Responsible Faculty: Dr. Stephen Kraus

This course occurs annually as a SUNA sponsored training course for nurses and professional staff. It is taught by the nurses and physician staff from UTHSCSA providing didactics, a course handout of UDS procedures and hands on training. Registration costs for one or more interested residents is supplied annually.

Visiting Professorships

This usually involves an internationally known professor with expertise in a specific area of Urology who presents several lectures, may operate with the chief residents and hosts a patient presentation seminar to test the resident's knowledge base and skills. Additional visiting professors are invited for ad hoc conferences throughout the year. In general, all resident clinical responsibilities are suspended for the time of the conferences.

Resident Feedback Sessions

Time: Quarterly

Responsible Faculty: Joseph Basler, PhD, MD

Format: Discussion.

These meetings are usually held on the 5th Fridays to allow the residents an open forum to discuss improvement projects to enhance the residency program. This time is also open for the Program Director to announce any changes or coming events to the program or department as a whole. A separate Winter and Summer meeting is followed by individual resident-to-program director semiannual progress meeting. In addition to reviewing the resident's clinical evaluations, in-service scores and case logs, this meeting is also used to update each resident's educational portfolio and check progress on the current set of research goals and objectives set forth by the resident.

Geriatric Urology Symposium and Lecture Series:

Time: Annual

Format: Lectures, Discussion, Panel Discussions

This series is supported by a grant from the American Geriatrics Society and began in 2009. Selected topics of relevance to Urologists are presented in an intensive 1-day symposium annually. Lectures and discussion groups from UTHSCSA Geriatrics faculty or invited outside experts are part of this effort.

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