

## General Surgery Residency

### Program Overview:

The Surgery Residency Program provides outstanding educational opportunities for General Surgery and surgical subspecialty training. Our residency is a six-year program consisting of five years in clinical training and one year in clinical research. Residents are assigned to required research rotations in 3 four-month segments during the PGY-2, PGY-3, and PGY-4 levels of training. Sixty practicing physicians serve as faculty members, 32 of whom are full-time, hospital-based. The program is approved by the ACGME for five categorical positions at each level, as well as four PGY-1 Preliminary Surgery positions (all through the NRMP). Our rotations are primarily “under one roof” with daily exposure and involvement with the Chair, Residency Program Director, and other faculty.



Residents completing our program have a successful pass rate on the board certification examination for General Surgery. Our graduates are truly “general surgeons” with a breadth of experience enabling them to successfully enter surgical practice or compete for nationally recognized fellowships. They are prepared for any surgery career path. We sponsor fellowships in Colon and Rectal Surgery, Surgical Critical Care, and Vascular Surgery.

### Clinical Training:

The majority of clinical training takes place within the main Erlanger Health System campus, but we also provide a three-month rotation in rural General Surgery for each PGY-3 level resident. The resident works one-on-one with 3 faculty members practicing in rural settings within Tennessee. Erlanger is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest public health system in the U.S. Training is quite comprehensive, encompassing all areas of General Surgery and related subspecialties. Because of the Level I Trauma Center designation (adult and pediatric), helicopter transport service, kidney transplant program, and reputation as the tertiary care center for the Southeast Tennessee Region, Erlanger’s average hospital surgery census is high. Each year approximately 18,000 operative procedures are performed. Surgery residents are involved in door-to-door care of approximately 90% of all patients admitted to General Surgery, Thoracic, and Vascular Services.

### Conferences:

There are weekly didactic surgical critical care teaching rounds, bi-monthly critical care lectures/journal club meetings, General Surgery journal club meetings, and weekly institutional basic science, grand rounds, and morbidity and mortality conferences.

Funding is provided to send Surgery residents to outside conferences such as the Spring and Fall meetings of the American College of Surgeons, Southeastern Surgical Congress, and Southern Vascular Conference. Time to attend conferences is provided in addition to annual leave (vacation).

### Skills Lab/SIM Center:

The Medical Surgical Skills Lab and Human Patient Simulation Center are two tremendous assets to the program in which the residents can practice surgical skills in a more relaxed, less critical environment than an actual hospital operating room. This benefits junior residents by allowing them to develop technical skills outside their day-to-day clinical experience.



### Contact Information:

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