

Surgery

It is not a right, but rather a privilege, to operate. The opportunity to participate in the surgical management of a patient's disease process is a weighty responsibility. Every resident is expected to be fully prepared to carry out the intended operation and to manage any potential complications. This involves reviewing the surgery schedule in advance, reviewing the pertinent anatomy and pathophysiology, and practicing the technical skills needed to perform the planned procedure. Equally important to technical performance of the operation is a full understanding of the patient's history and physical findings. Review of the case with staff and by chart review should transpire before coming to the operating room. This review of the patient's history and findings serve as an educational process that will enhance your knowledge base, maximize the benefit of your participation and will enable you to better care for your patients in the future.

Every resident is also expected to arrive for surgical cases early (before the scheduled time). Coordination with the nursing staff and anesthesia as well as checking the room for equipment and films will ensure that the patient receives the best possible care. Coming to the O.R. late or unprepared will be grounds for disciplinary action, which may include suspension of operating privileges as well as other measures.

In surgery, cooperation with the anesthesia and nursing teams is the hallmark of the confident and prepared surgeon. Equanimity and a calm approach to solving problems in the operating room will go a long way toward helping your patients get the best care. Antagonistic or impolite behavior toward operating room personnel from resident surgeons cannot be condoned and will not be tolerated.