



Rural Onboarding 2022

Surgery

Introduction: There is a wide range of surgical procedures possibly within a district hospital setting and there is a drive an interest to widen the scope of what is currently available in our rural settings. Limits are partly set by available resources, but also by the confidence of the surgeon. This field is under review at the moment and there are amazing mentors exploring how to introduce a surgical basket of care into district health systems.

TOP Surgery Work Based Activities to focus on this week.

Make sure you can:

- Awareness of potential basket of surgical care that can be developed for your hospital
- Assess and manage Ectopic pregnancy surgical
- Basic Amputations
- Appendicectomy
- Small procedures

Reading material / Tutorials/ Webinars / Additional resources

Surgery Survival Guide. Dr John Jeff, Frere Hospital. This local publication is a great resource. Contact Dr Jeff John at jeffveenajohn@gmail.com

A practical approach to peri-operative anticoagulation. SAJP, A Beeton.
<https://safpj.co.za/index.php/safpj/article/view/4990/5897>

Surgical skills deficiencies and needs of rural general practitioners in South Africa. Porter et al.
<http://www.scielo.org.za/pdf/samj/v108n3/19.pdf>

Surgical care at rural district hospitals in low- and middle-income countries: an essential component of universal health coverage; Chu et al; Rural and Remote Health.
<https://www.rrh.org.au/journal/article/5920>

South African Urology Association - **Introduction to Urology.** Published by the SAUA - available at R 250 each from Dr Jeff John at jeffveenajohn@gmail.com

The **South African Family Practice Manual** has some excellent sections on small procedures such as removing toenails and draining an abscess as well as some of the bigger procedures done in a district hospital setting.

Google Folder:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IES_5-3ribluHUnZPP45UCvzhXaUCLBB?usp=sharing

- Mostly articles regarding access to surgical care in rural health

Table 2. Essential content for a CPD programme in essential skills for rural surgical practice

Content	Respondents indicating the skill essential, %
Ophthalmology procedures	
Incision and drainage of meibomian cyst	69.0
Removal of foreign object not in visual axis	90.0
Ear, nose and throat procedures	
Packing epistaxis	93.0
Cautery of Little's area	50.0
Foreign body removal, uncomplicated	89.2
Incision and drainage of quinsy abscess	60.4
Tracheostomy in easy neck	53.5
Surgical cricothyroidotomy	50.5
Needle cricothyroidotomy	71.3
Abdominal procedures	
Perianal abscess or haematoma drainage	78.3
Pack bleeding spleen	53.1
Pack bleeding liver	53.5
Paracentesis of fluid	58.6
Ultrasound diagnosis of intra-abdominal fluid	59.4
Appendicectomy	75.2
Laparotomy	50.0
Vascular procedures	
Vascular cut-down procedures	57.0
Skin and soft-tissue procedures	
Escharotomy of circumferential burns	63.4
Debridement and suturing of lacerations	96.0
Biopsy of lumps and other soft-tissue lesions	88.2
Biopsy of skin lesions	88.2
Orthopaedic procedures	
Aspiration/injection of joints	74.3
Urological procedures	
Management of priapism	78.4
Testicular torsion (scrotal exploration)	62.7
Circumcision	62.7
Suprapubic catheterisation	86.1
Urethral catheterisation	96.0

CPD = continuing professional development.

From: Surgical skills deficiencies and needs of rural general practitioners in South Africa. Porter et al.