



## Before Licensing Examination > Useful Resources

### Topics

The following is a list of topics for reference; the list is neither exclusive nor exhaustive. Candidates are expected to have a good understanding of the biomedical basis and clinical management, where appropriate, of these conditions. Please note that the same topic can appear in more than one discipline if deemed appropriate.

### **Surgery**

#### **Breast Surgery**

##### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Mastitis and breast abscess

##### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of breast cancer
- Management of benign breast neoplasms
- Triple assessment
  - Interpretation of mammogram and breast ultrasound
  - Fine needle aspiration vs. core needle biopsy
- Breast cancer screening
- Breast cancer genetics

#### **Cardiothoracic Surgery**

##### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Thoracic trauma
- Spontaneous pneumothorax
- Aortic dissection

##### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of lung cancer
- Interpretation of chest x-ray and CT thorax

#### **Colorectal Surgery**

##### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Lower gastrointestinal bleeding



- Intestinal obstruction
- Bowel ischaemia
- Acute appendicitis
- Acute diverticulitis and its complications
- Complications from inflammatory bowel diseases
- Anastomotic leakage
- Post-operative ileus

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Screening for colonic polyps and cancers
- Management of colonic and rectal cancer
- Management of inflammatory bowel diseases
- Nutrition: enteral, parenteral
- Colonoscopy and its complications
- Bowel preparations
- Types and complications of stoma
- Functional colonic disorders including constipation and irritable bowel syndrome
- Management of proctology problems
  - Haemorrhoids
  - Fistula-in-ano
  - Anal fissures
  - Pilonidal sinus

### **Endocrine Surgery**

#### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Management of hypercalcemia
- Management of Addisonian crisis

#### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of thyroid nodules
- Classifications of thyroid cancers
- Complications of thyroidectomy
- Management of hyperparathyroidism
- Management of adrenal nodules
- Pancreatic endocrine neoplasms



## Oesophageal and Upper Gastrointestinal Surgery

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Upper gastrointestinal bleeding
- Perforated peptic ulcers
- Small bowel ischaemia
- Oesophageal perforation including Boerhaave syndrome

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of oesophageal cancer
- Management of dysphagia
- Peptic ulcer disease and its complications
- Gastric outlet obstruction
- Management of gastric cancer
- Types of gastrectomy
- Functional oesophageal disorders including achalasia

## Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Acute biliary tract infections
  - - Acute cholecystitis
  - - Acute cholangitis
  - - Biliary pancreatitis
  - - Recurrent pyogenic cholangitis
- Liver trauma - blunt or penetrating
- Liver abscess and its etiology
- Ruptured hepatocellular carcinoma
- Hepatic encephalopathy
- Splenic trauma and splenectomy

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of gallstone diseases
- Complications of cholecystectomy including bile duct injury
- Management of liver tumour (primary and secondary)
- Management of pancreatic cancer (curative and palliative surgery)
- Investigation of jaundice (including painless jaundice)



- Immunosuppression in transplant surgery

## **Neurosurgery**

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Acute intracranial haemorrhage
- Head injury and management
- Spinal cord injury and compression - levels and classification

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Glasgow Coma Score
- Brainstem death
- Intra-cranial pressure: hydrocephalus and management
- Brain tumours

## **Paediatric Surgery**

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Necrotising enterocolitis
- Intussusception
- Testicular torsion

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Hirschsprung's disease

## **Plastic, Head and Neck Surgery**

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Burn injury
- Airway management
- Management of epistaxis
- Management of carotid blowout
- Facial trauma and its classifications

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Approach to oral cavity tumours including tongue and buccal mucosa tumours
- Approach to cervical lymphadenopathy
- Management of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (including recurrence)



- Management of common skin cancers (including squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma and melanoma)
- Parotid tumours and facial nerve palsy

## **Urology**

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Acute retention of urine
- Testicular torsion and its differential diagnosis
- Pyelonephritis
- Ureteric obstruction

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of renal cell carcinoma and its complications (including vena caval thrombosis)
- Management of transitional cell carcinoma of urinary bladder and renal pelvis
- Management of ureteric stones
- Interpretation of uroflowmetry

## **Vascular Surgery**

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Acute limb ischaemia
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm (repair techniques and its limitations)

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Management of lower limb ulcers (ischaemic, venous and infective)
- Management of lymphoedema
- Management of asymptomatic abdominal aortic aneurysm
- Management of varicose veins
- Management of carotid diseases, including bypass and stenting
- Uses of common antiplatelet agents and anticoagulants



## Other General Surgical Topics

### Emergency Surgery Topics

- Trauma care
- Management and classification of shock
- Management and classification of hypoxia
- Management and classification of oliguria

### Elective Surgery Topics

- Suture materials
- Informed consent
- World Health Organization (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist
- Common abdominal incisions
- Wound healing and wound management