

























## 9. Recommended Resources

National Health and Medical Research Council. Australian guidelines for the prevention and control of infection in healthcare (2010). Available at [www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/cd33](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/cd33)

McLatchie G, Borley N, Chikwe J, editors. Oxford Handbook of Clinical Surgery (4th edition). Oxford University Press; 2013.

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Fundamental Skills for Surgery. San Francisco: McGraw-Hill; 2008.

Sadler TW. Langman's Medical Embryology (11th edition). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins; 2009.

Smith JA, Fox JG, Saunder AC, Yip MK. Hunt and Marshall's Clinical Problems in Surgery (2nd edition). Chatswood: Elsevier Australia; 2010.

Tjandra JJ, Clunie GJA, Kay AH, Smith J. Textbook of Surgery (3rd edition). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell; 2006.

Williams NS, Bulstrode CJK, O'Connell PR. Bailey and Love's Short Practice of Surgery (26th edition). Boca Raton: Taylor & Francis Group; 2013.

## 10. Contact details

For further information about any aspect of this curriculum please contact RACGP Rural on free call 1800 636 764, email [fargp@racgp.org.au](mailto:fargp@racgp.org.au) or visit [www.racgp.org.au/fargp](http://www.racgp.org.au/fargp)

## References

1. New approaches to integrated rural training for medical practitioners. Melbourne: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, 2014. Available at [www.racgp.org.au/yourracgp/faculties/rural/projects/doh](http://www.racgp.org.au/yourracgp/faculties/rural/projects/doh)
2. Australian Medical Association. General practice/hospitals transfer of care arrangements – 2013. Available at <https://ama.com.au/position-statement/general-practice/hospitals-transfer-care-arrangements-2013>
3. Guidelines for transport of critically ill. Melbourne: Australasian College of Emergency Medicine, Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetics, College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand, 2013. Available at [www.anzca.edu.au/resources/professional-documents/pdfs/ps52-2010-minimum-standards-for-transport-of-critically-ill-patients.pdf](http://www.anzca.edu.au/resources/professional-documents/pdfs/ps52-2010-minimum-standards-for-transport-of-critically-ill-patients.pdf)
4. Quality health records in Australian primary healthcare: A guide. Melbourne: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, 2013. Available at [www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/business/tools/support/qualityhealthrecords](http://www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/business/tools/support/qualityhealthrecords)
5. Sample compliance checklist for quality health records. Melbourne: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, 2013. Available at [www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/business/tools/support/qualityhealthrecords/sample-checklist](http://www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/business/tools/support/qualityhealthrecords/sample-checklist)
6. Safety and Quality Improvement Guide Standard 6: Clinical Handover. Sydney: Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, 2012. Available at [www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications/safety-and-quality-improvement-guide-standard-6-clinical-handover-october-2012](http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications/safety-and-quality-improvement-guide-standard-6-clinical-handover-october-2012)
7. Strandberg EL, Ovhed I, Borgquist L, Wilhelmsson S. The perceived meaning of a (w)holistic view among general practitioners and district nurses in Swedish primary care: a qualitative study. *BMC Family Practice* 2007; DOI 10.1186/1471-2296-8-8.
8. Standards for general practice (4th edition). Melbourne: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, 2013. Available at [www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/standards/standards4thedition](http://www.racgp.org.au/your-practice/standards/standards4thedition)
9. Carey-Hazell, K. Improving patient information and decision making. The Australian Health Consumer, 2005. Available at [www.chf.org.au/pdfs/ahc/ahc-2005-1-improving-patient-information.pdf](http://www.chf.org.au/pdfs/ahc/ahc-2005-1-improving-patient-information.pdf)
10. Seven steps to patient safety. London: National Patient Safety Agency, 2004. Available at [www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/collections/seven-steps-to-patient-safety/?entryid45=59787](http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/collections/seven-steps-to-patient-safety/?entryid45=59787)
11. National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. Sydney: Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, 2011. Available at [www.safetyandquality.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/NSQHS-Standards-Sept2011.pdf](http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/NSQHS-Standards-Sept2011.pdf)
12. Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Informed Consent Policy, 2008. Available at [www.surgeons.org/media/8329/FES\\_PST\\_2032\\_P\\_Informed\\_Consent\\_Policy.pdf](http://www.surgeons.org/media/8329/FES_PST_2032_P_Informed_Consent_Policy.pdf)
13. Elstein AS, Schwarz A. Clinical problem solving and diagnostic decision making: selective review of the cognitive literature. *BMJ* 2002;324(7339):729–32.
14. Patient.co.uk. Trauma Assessment, 2011. Available at [www.patient.co.uk/doctor/trauma-assessment](http://www.patient.co.uk/doctor/trauma-assessment)
15. American College of Surgeons. Advanced Trauma Life Support course, 2012. Available at [www.facs.org/trauma/atls/about.html](http://www.facs.org/trauma/atls/about.html)

## Appendix 1 (List 1)

The following list (List 1) is provided to give examples only of the types of procedures that, depending on years of experience, training and needs of a community, a GP would have knowledge, skills and experience of before undertaking GP Surgery advanced skills training.

- Punch biopsy of skin lesions
- Incisional biopsy of skin lesions
- Suture and repair of lacerations
- Excision of cutaneous lesions with simple closure
- Removal of superficial palpable foreign bodies
- Removal of toenail
- Wedge excision of toenail
- Application of plaster for undisplaced fractures of the upper and lower limbs
- Incision and drainage of cutaneous abscesses
- Cauterisation or freezing of skin lesions
- *Head and neck – ENT emergencies*
  - Epistaxis control/nasal packing
- *Head and neck – Assessment of deafness, ear infection*
  - Canal toilet
  - Eye trauma
- *Breast lump*
  - Triple assessment and referral
- *Chest trauma*
  - Diagnosis
  - Treat or transfer
- *Abdomen*
  - Diagnosis and management of abdominal pain
  - Bowel obstruction, diagnosis–resuscitation
  - Perforated viscus, diagnosis–resuscitation
  - Proctoscopy
  - Diagnosis and non-operative management of appendicitis
- *Neurosurgical (observe and describe)*
  - Care of closed head injury
  - Management of potential spinal injury

- *Vascular (diagnosis and non-operative management)*
  - Arterial/venous ulcers
  - Peripheral vascular disease/ Claudication
  - Superficial thrombophlebitis
  - Deep venous thrombosis
- *Genitourinary*
  - Groin/scrotal lumps – diagnosis
  - Testicular torsion – diagnosis
  - Testicular trauma – diagnosis
  - Renal pain – diagnosis
  - Prostate disease – diagnosis
  - Urinary tract infection – diagnosis/treatment
  - Drainage of hydrocele
- *Voiding difficulties*
  - Catheterisation
- *Gynaecology/Obstetric (diagnosis and non-operative management)*
  - Acute gynaecology conditions
  - Obstetric emergency
  - Ectopic pregnancy
- *Vascular*
  - Acute Ischaemic limb (diagnosis and non-operative management)
  - Arterial trauma – haemorrhage control
- *Musculoskeletal joint pain/injuries*
  - Intra-articular and percutaneous access
- *Musculoskeletal ligament injuries*
  - Diagnosis/splinting

## Appendix 2 (List 2)

The following list (List 2) is provided to give examples only of the types of GP surgical procedures that could be undertaken by a GP Surgical Proceduralist. Note that some procedures, such as an emergency caesarean section, gastroscopy, colonoscopy and grommets, require additional specialised training and/or accreditation within other curriculums, such as Advanced Diploma of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (DRANZCOG). As such, they fall beyond the scope 12-month (full-time equivalent) ARST curriculum.

- *Skin/subcutaneous tissue*
  - Excision and suture of complex wounds
  - Drainage/debridement of infected or contaminated wound
  - Drainage of deep abscess
  - Drainage of haematomas
  - Removal of deep foreign bodies
  - Simple flap closure of wounds
  - Skin grafts – partial/full thickness
  - Removal of toenail and ablation toenail bed
- *Burns*
  - Staging diagnosis and dressings
  - Escharotomy
  - Escharectomy
  - Criteria for referral
- *Head and neck – Facial injuries (complex)*
  - Airway protection
  - Suture lacerations
  - Mandible stabilisation
  - Cricothyroidotomy
  - Tracheostomy
- *Head and neck – Management of open head injuries*
  - Suture
  - Transfer arrangements
- *Head and neck – ENT*
  - Incision and drainage abscesses
  - Tonsillectomy
  - Adenoidectomy

- *Head and neck – Assessment of deafness, ear infection*
  - Burns – major/minor
  - Penetrating injuries (assessment and referral)
- *Head and neck – Lump in neck*
  - Diagnosis
- *Breast abscess/infection*
  - Treatment and drainage
- *Chest trauma*
  - Pleural tap
  - Closure of open wounds
  - Management pneumothorax
  - Management of haemothorax
  - Management of flail chest
  - Emergency pericardial aspiration
- *Abdomen*
  - Appendicectomy
  - Repair of inguinal, umbilical and femoral herniae
  - Abdominal trauma, diagnosis–resuscitation
  - Abdominal mass, diagnosis and surgical management
  - Proctoscopy, rigid/fibre optic sigmoidoscopy and surgical management
  - Management of sigmoid volvulus
  - Acute gastrointestinal bleeding, diagnosis–resuscitation
  - Endoscopy
  - Colonoscopy
  - Gallbladder – cholecystectomy and cholecystostomy
  - Spleen – splenectomy
  - Over sewing of perforated duodenal ulcer
  - Laparotomy
  - Laparoscopy
- *Peri-anal*
  - Peri-anal and ischio-rectal abscess drainage
  - Laying open pilonidal sinus
  - Peri-anal haematoma (incision and drainage)
  - Rectal bleeding – colonoscopy
  - Banding of haemorrhoids

- *Genitourinary*
  - Groin/scrotal lumps – surgical management
  - Testicular torsion – surgical management
  - Testicular trauma – surgical management
  - Vasectomy
  - Circumcision
  - Surgical management of hydrocele
- *Voiding difficulties*
  - Urethral dilatation
  - Suprapubic catheterisation
- *Gynaecological/Obstetric (diagnosis and surgical management)*
  - Acute gynaecology conditions
  - Obstetric emergency
  - Ectopic pregnancy
- *Vascular*
  - Compartment syndromes – emergency fasciotomy
  - Ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm – assessment and resuscitation
- *Musculoskeletal – Hand injuries*
  - Abscess drainage
  - Tendon sheath drainage
  - Terminalisation of digit
  - Tendon repair
- *Musculoskeletal – Limb fractures/dislocations*
  - Simple fracture management
  - Closed reduction of dislocations
  - Complex fracture management
  - Closed reduction of fractures
- *Musculoskeletal – Nerve entrapment*
  - Carpal tunnel release







**RACGP** | **Rural**

Healthy Profession.  
Healthy Australia.