

An Experience in Surgical Anatomy to Foster Mentoring between Practicing Surgeons and MS1 Students: A Pilot Study

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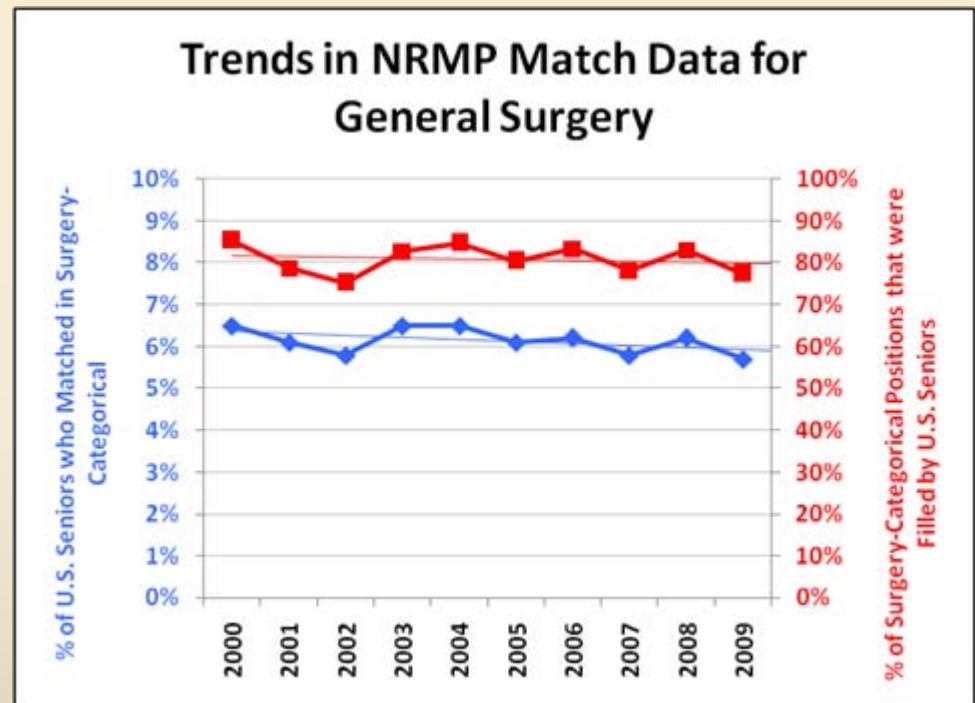
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M4 Student



The Problem

- There has been a decrease in the number of medical students that pursue a career in General Surgery



Problem Details

- Various factors have been cited for this decreasing interest in General Surgery
 - Poor lifestyle
 - Insufficient reimbursement
 - Lack of good role models,
 - Inadequate teaching/mentoring
- Medical schools have minimal influence on the health-care system
- However, the medical school environment may be able to cast surgeons in a better light

Problem at UNCOM

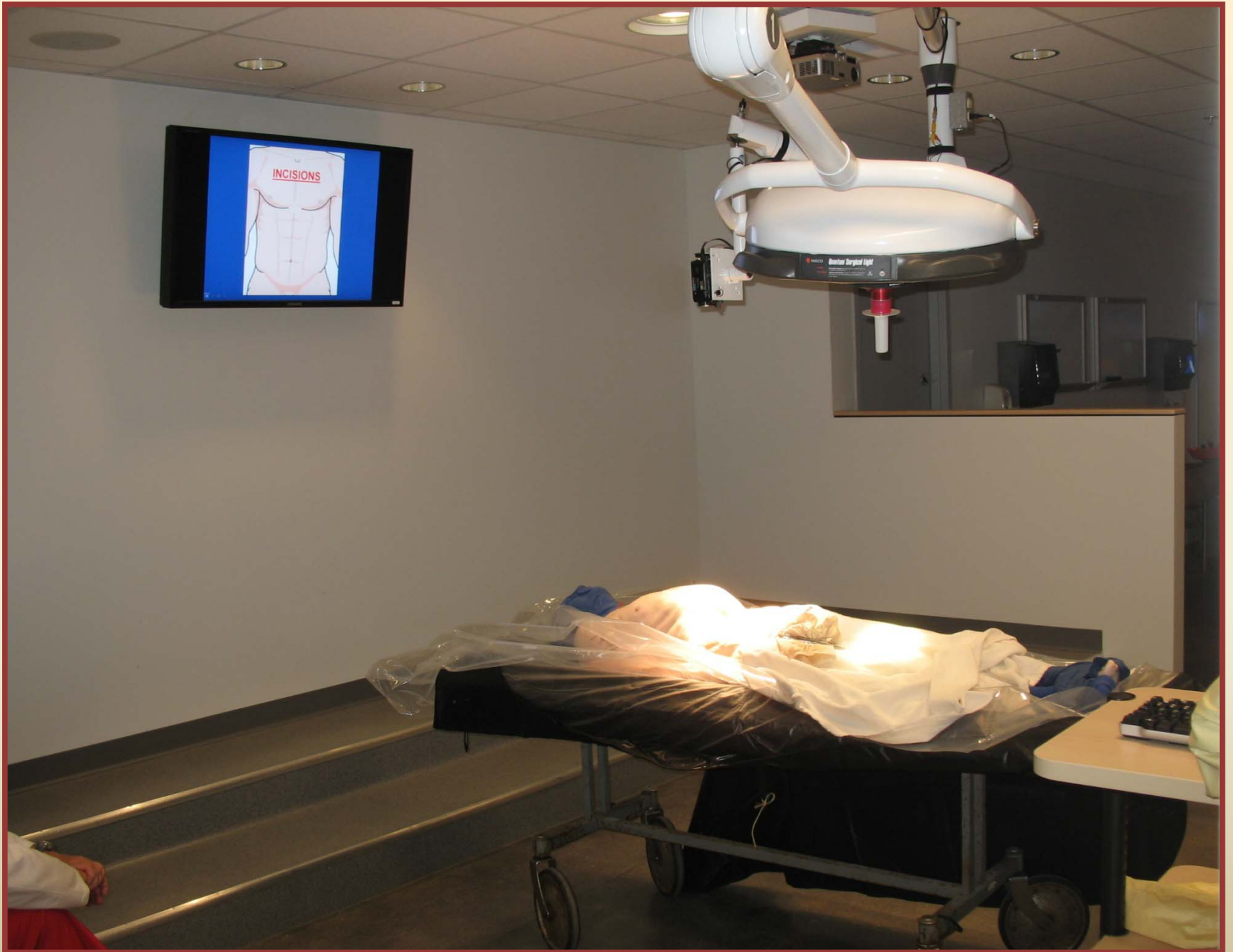
- Surgery department faculty contribute little towards teaching of MS1/MS2 students
 - 0.8% of the total documented teaching time.
 - Other major clinical departments 3%-16%
- Most mentoring by surgeons is during the 3rd and 4th years
 - Perceptions of General Surgery by medical students is probably well-formed by the MS3 year

A Small Step: A Surgical-Anatomy Demonstration

- Project goals
 - Describe
 - a scheme that could enhance mentoring of MS1 students by practicing surgeons
 - Gather data
 - quality improvement feedback from a pilot study of this project

The Project

- In the Gross Anatomy course
 - A faculty member from the Department of Surgery provided a review of pancreatic malignancies and their management
 - Using a cadaver, the clinically relevant anatomy was detailed and a pancreaticoduodenectomy (“Whipple procedure”) was performed
 - Procedure was broadcast locally to monitors in the gross anatomy lab
- Short survey (Likert scale)
 - feedback from the students on the demonstration



INCISIONS







Response rate = 70.38%

Descriptives and ANOVA results
(Scale: 1=strongly disagree; 5= strongly agree)

Item		Group	N	Mean	Std. Dev.
The surgical demonstration enhanced my understanding of the anatomy of the abdominal viscera.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		
The surgical demonstration increased my understanding of the importance of the vascular supply to abdominal viscera.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		
The surgical demonstration increased my appreciation of the clinical importance of the anatomy of this region.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		
I was able to develop an understanding of the Whipple operation from the surgical demonstration.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		
The use of the video camera projection of the surgical demonstration was adequate for my viewing of the demonstration.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		
I would like to see future surgical demonstrations.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		
Overall, I found the surgical demonstration to be very beneficial.		PA/PT	73		
		Med	72		
		Total	145		

Descriptives and ANOVA results
(Scale: 1=strongly disagree; 5= strongly agree)

Item	Group	N	Mean	Std. Dev.
The surgical demonstration enhanced my understanding of the anatomy of the abdominal viscera.	PA/PT	73	4.73	0.449
	Med	72	4.58	0.550
	Total	145	4.66	0.505
The surgical demonstration increased my understanding of the importance of the vascular supply to abdominal viscera.	PA/PT	73	4.75	0.434
	Med	72	4.42	0.666
	Total	145	4.59	0.584
The surgical demonstration increased my appreciation of the clinical importance of the anatomy of this region.	PA/PT	73	4.82	0.420
	Med	72	4.78	0.419
	Total	145	4.80	0.418
I was able to develop an understanding of the Whipple operation from the surgical demonstration.	PA/PT	73	4.74	0.442
	Med	72	4.61	0.571
	Total	145	4.68	0.512
The use of the video camera projection of the surgical demonstration was adequate for my viewing of the demonstration.	PA/PT	73	4.30	0.739
	Med	72	4.41	0.641
	Total	145	4.36	0.692
I would like to see future surgical demonstrations.	PA/PT	73	4.82	0.468
	Med	72	4.76	0.544
	Total	145	4.79	0.506
Overall, I found the surgical demonstration to be very beneficial.	PA/PT	73	4.79	0.470
	Med	72	4.64	0.564
	Total	145	4.72	0.523

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Conclusion

- The majority of students (99%) felt that the surgical demonstration was extremely beneficial
 - Less than 1% of the students did not find the demonstration to be beneficial
- The students felt that it improved their understanding of the relevant anatomy and its clinical importance
- The majority of students would like more surgical demonstrations
 - Expand to include other procedures