

STRUCTURE OF THE HUMAN BODY 2009

Living Anatomy Small Group Curriculum

Introduction

A frequently asked question during this course is “what is important?”, or “why do we have to know that?”, which frequently arises in the context of the tremendous amount of structural detail being learned. The Living Anatomy Curriculum was created to link the practice of medicine to the large amount of detailed anatomical information being learned and to enable first year students to see first hand the application of the information in the practice of medicine.

Throughout the course and in groups, students will be afforded the privilege of observing patient treatment in the company of a clinical faculty member. Examples of the clinical setting observed will include surgery, imaging, radiological procedures, angiography and cardiography, ultrasound imaging, arthroscopy, radiology, and others.

Students will observe as groups in the company of an attending physician who will introduce the experience and participate in conversation with the students and the physician(s)-in-charge.

Goal

To observe and also dialogue with an attending physician about what anatomical information is important in a clinical procedure and how that anatomical knowledge is actually applied in a clinical procedure.

Living Anatomy Curriculum Objectives

1. To provide an opportunity for the observation of clinical procedures by first year medical students studying human gross anatomy.
2. To provide an opportunity for first year medical students to converse with clinicians both during and after the procedure about the application of knowledge of gross anatomy to clinical practice
3. To have first year medical students write a reflection document regarding their impressions of how basic science courses and information are utilized in clinical practice and are not forgotten elements of a curriculum.

Living Anatomy Curriculum Course Requirements

This is a required component of the Structure of the Human Body course. Attendance in the assigned small group is mandatory. Students will prepare and submit a two-page analysis of their experience, identifying three major things learned through the experience and offering a reflection on the relationship(s) between the SHB course and the practice of medicine. This reflection paper must be handed in to the Education Specialist (Lucia Garcia) no later than **3:00 pm on Friday, December 11, 2009**

A group's experience in observing a clinical procedure will not necessarily coincide with actual dissection and completion of relevant sections of the course. Nonetheless, it will inform students by their observation of how physicians use their knowledge of anatomy in clinical practice. It will also give students an opportunity to dialogue with physicians about the importance of this knowledge.

Procedure

An assignment sheet identifying student name, procedure date and time, location of assembly, and expected duration of the procedure is available in the General Information section of the SHB website.

Student groups will assemble with Dr. Santaniello, Assistant Course Director, in the gross lab on the assigned day to go to the location of the procedure. The observation time will be approximately one hour; students can remain beyond the allotted time with Dr. Santaniello's and the attending physician-in-charge's approval. Dr. Santaniello will accompany the group and no individuals are to leave this group without his prior approval. Students are reminded that it matters very little as to which particular procedure is being observed and although there may be procedures that are more appealing the following goal is most important:

Students are reminded that the important goal of this portion of the SHB course is that you observe and also dialogue with the attending physician(s) about what anatomical information is important in the procedure and how that anatomical information and knowledge is actually applied in the clinical procedure.