

Introduction to anaesthesia for emergency surgery

Learning outcomes:

Undertake anaesthesia for ASA 1E and 2E patients requiring emergency surgery for common conditions

Undertake anaesthesia for sick patients and patients with major co-existing diseases, under the supervision of a more senior colleague

Core clinical learning outcome:

Delivers safe perioperative anaesthetic care to adult ASA 1E and/or 2E patients requiring uncomplicated emergency surgery [e.g. uncomplicated appendicectomy or manipulation of forearm fracture/uncomplicated open reduction and internal fixation] with local supervision

NB: All competencies annotated with the letter 'E' can be examined in any of the components of the Primary examination identified in the FRCA examination blueprint on page B-99 or in the Final examination identified in the Final FRCA blueprint on page C72 of Annex C.

Knowledge			
Competence	Description	Assessment Methods	GMP
ES_BK_01	Discusses the special problems encountered in patients requiring emergency surgery and how these may be managed including: Knowing that patients may be very frightened and how this should be managed Recognising that the patient may have severe pain which needs immediate treatment Understanding that patients presenting for emergency surgery are more likely to have inadequately treated co-existing disease Understanding how to decide on the severity of illness in the frightened apprehensive emergency patient Understanding the pathophysiological changes and organ dysfunction associated with acute illness How to recognise that the patient may be dehydrated or hypovolaemic and understanding the importance of preoperative resuscitation	A,C,E	1,2,3,4
ES_BK_02	In respect of the preparation of acutely ill patients for emergency surgery discusses: How to resuscitate the patient with respect to hypovolaemia and electrolyte abnormalities The fact that patients may be inadequately fasted and how this problem is managed	A,C,E	1

Knowledge			
Competence	Description	Assessment Methods	GMP
	The importance of dealing with acute preoperative pain and how this should be managed		
ES_BK_03	Describes how to recognise the 'sick' patient [including sepsis], their appropriate management and the increased risks associated with surgery	A,C,E	1,2
ES_BK_04	Understands the airway management in a patient with acute illness who is at risk of gastric reflux	A,C,E	1

Skills			
Competence	Description	Assessment Methods	GMP
ES_BS_01	Manages preoperative assessment and resuscitation/optimisation of acutely ill patients correctly	A,C,D	1,2,3,4
ES_BS_02	Demonstrates safe perioperative management of ASA 1 and 2 patients requiring emergency surgery	A,C,D,M	1,2,3,4
ES_BS_03	Manages rapid sequence induction in the high risk situation of emergency surgery for the acutely ill patient	A,D	1