



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Abdominal surgery	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Co-ordinator: doc. dr. Mindaugas Kvietkauskas Others: Institute of clinical medicine, Clinic of Gastroenterology, Nephrourology and Surgery lecturers	Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University. Institute of clinical medicine, Clinic of Gastroenterology, Nephrourology and Surgery, Santariškių st. 2, Vilnius

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
Integrated studies (stages I and II)	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
On-campus: lectures and seminars in the classroom; practical classes in the operating theatre, surgical wards, and endoscopy and ultrasound examination rooms	Semester V	Lithuanian and English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: The student must have completed the following courses: Psychology, Human Anatomy, Human Biology, Human Histology, Human Genetics, Human Physiology, Pharmacology, Medical Microbiology, General Microbiology and Immunology, Biochemistry, Pathology, Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Introduction to Scientific Research in Medicine and Evidence-Based Medicine, Applied Anatomy, Fundamentals of Radiology.	Co-requisites (if relevant): None

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5 credits	135	66	69

Purpose of the course unit		
Aim – to know the aetiology and pathophysiology, clinical presentation, principles of diagnosis, differential diagnosis and treatment of surgical diseases* of the abdominal organs, the classifications used, surgical techniques, and outcomes. Upon completion of the course, students must be able to assess patients with abdominal surgical diseases subjectively and objectively, develop an adequate investigation plan, evaluate and interpret investigation results to establish a clinical diagnosis, perform differential diagnosis, and prescribe appropriate treatment.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods

General competences		
Upon completion of this module, the student:		
will act honestly and comply with ethical commitments; apply the principles of good medical practice in work; be empathetic; be able to think critically and self-critically; be creative and proactive; be able to pursue goals; be able to communicate with others.	Development of general physician competences during practical classes in hospital wards, operating theatres, diagnostic units/departments	Assessment of assignments and independent work.
to analyse and synthesise; to learn during further studies and to pursue independent lifelong learning; to be able to apply knowledge in practice; to be able to teach others; to be able to conduct research.	Development of general physician competences during practical classes in hospital wards, operating theatres, and diagnostic units/departments	Assessment of assignments and independent work.
Subject-specific competences		
Upon completion of this module, the student:		
- will be able to assess the limits of their competence and, if necessary, seek help; solve problems and make decisions; communicate and work in a team together with specialists from other fields and experts in other sciences	Depending on the situation, studies may be converted to distance learning	A ten-point grading system is used to assess knowledge, abilities, and skills. Written assignment: a clinical case report in accordance with the procedure established by the clinic. Students are permitted to sit the examination after attending the lectures scheduled in the study plan, provided that during the semester they attended all practical classes and seminars in accordance with the procedure established by the VU Faculty of Medicine, submitted and defended all required written assignments, and completed the practical class requirements in accordance with the procedure established by the clinic. Course Abdominal Surgery FINAL ASSESSMENT – examination on the VU VMA platform (50 multiple-choice test questions)
- will be able to learn, seek information from various sources, process and analyse it, and update professional information.	Discussion, case analysis, storytelling, problem-solving, error analysis, theoretical modelling, seminar, consultation, bedside patient examination, demonstration of recorded surgical videos, traditional and video lectures, searching for medical information in databases and reading the literature. After each topic, a group discussion and an individual oral interview. The last day of practical classes is dedicated to the presentation of a clinical case report and written assignments, and an oral interview on the module topics.	
- will be able to examine a patient with suspected surgical pathology of the abdominal organs who is to undergo surgery: history taking, medical examination, palpation, percussion, auscultation and other objective clinical examinations, formulating an assessment, and making decisions	Communication with students is carried out through the virtual learning environment (VLE).	
- will understand the principles of diagnosis and differential diagnosis of the main surgical diseases of the abdominal organs, diagnostic algorithms, investigation methods and their importance; will be able to develop and justify an individual patient investigation plan, evaluate investigation results, and provide their clinical interpretation.	Attendance at lectures is recommended; attendance at seminars and practical classes is mandatory. Student attendance is recorded by the lecturer teaching the course.	
- will understand the principles, methods, treatment algorithms and complications of the main surgical diseases of the abdominal organs, their significance, and how to select an adequate and appropriate pharmacological or surgical treatment method, in combination with other treatment methods in the clinical context	Missed practical classes and seminars must be made up in accordance with the procedure established by the clinic. If more than 20% of practical classes/seminars are missed, they are not credited.	
- will be able to assess the appropriateness of treatment methods, potential benefit and harm, and properly inform the patient about treatment methods and options, and the responsibilities of medical staff		
- will acquire knowledge to appropriately assess treatment outcomes and prognosis		
- will understand the principles of effective communication in medical practice: communication with colleagues, patients, and the patient's relatives.		
- will become familiar with devices and instruments used in surgery		
- will be able to search for sources of medical information, analyse, summarise and present them; maintain and update information.		
- Take a history from a patient with diseases of the digestive system, perform a physical examination, determine a preliminary diagnosis, and prepare a plan for further investigations.		
- Evaluate laboratory (immunological, serological, enzyme, etc.) and imaging (ultrasonography,		

radiography, magnetic resonance imaging, computed tomography, angiography, etc.) investigation data. Will be able to establish a diagnosis in a diagnostically uncomplicated case and perform differential diagnosis.		
- Prescribe adequate (aetiopathogenetic, symptomatic) treatment for diseases of the digestive system; anticipate adverse drug effects and drug–drug interactions		

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
1. Topographic anatomy of the abdominal organs. Clinical abdominal examination. Peritonitis	2		1	2			3	6	Reading scientific and methodological literature, viewing video lectures and other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU Virtual Learning Environment (VLE): topic topographic anatomy of the abdominal organs, clinical abdominal examination, peritonitis
2. Abdominal wall hernias	1		2	3			5	5	Reading scientific and methodological literature, viewing video lectures and other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU Virtual Learning Environment (VLE): topic abdominal wall hernias
3. Surgical diseases of the oesophagus, stomach and duodenum	1		2	3			5	6	Reading scientific and methodological literature, viewing video lectures and other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU Virtual Learning Environment (VLE): topic surgical diseases of the oesophagus, stomach and duodenum, tumours.
4. Metabolic and bariatric surgery	1		1	2			3	5	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment, topic: metabolic and bariatric surgery
5. Surgical diseases of the small intestine. Surgical diseases of the vermiform appendix	1		2	3			5	6	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment,

									topic: surgical diseases of the small intestine and the vermiform appendix
6. Surgical diseases of the colon. Intestinal obstruction	1		1	3			4	5	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment, topic: surgical diseases of the colon
7. Surgical diseases of the gallbladder and bile ducts	1		2	3			5	6	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment, topic: surgical diseases of the gallbladder and bile ducts
8. Surgical diseases of the pancreas	1		2	4			6	7	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” VU
9. Surgical diseases of the liver	1		2	4			6	7	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment, topic: surgical diseases of the liver
10. Surgical diseases of the rectum and anal canal	1		2	3			5	5	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment, topic: surgical diseases of the rectum and anal canal
11. Trauma of the abdominal organs. Abdominal organ transplantation	1		2	2			4	5	Reading scientific and methodological literature, watching video lectures, and reviewing other visual materials in the course “Abdominal Surgery” in the VU virtual learning environment, topic: trauma of the abdominal organs, abdominal organ transplantation
12. Presentation of a clinical case description and written reports, and an oral questioning on the module topics			1	2			3	6	To write a description of a clinical case or a written report in accordance with the approved methodological guidelines for written assignments
Total	12		20	34			66	69	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Final examination (written)	100 %	After the cycle/rotation, according to the schedule	The examination is taken on the VU VMA platform. The exam test consists of 50 questions: 30 questions with one correct answer, 10 more complex questions with one correct answer, and 10 clinical scenarios also with one correct answer. Each correct answer is worth 1 point. Points are not rounded. Assessed on a 10-point scale. 10 points – 50–47 correct answers, 9 points – 46–43 correct answers, 8 points – 42–39 correct answers, 7 points – 38–35 correct answers, 6 points – 34–30 correct answers; 5 points – 29–25 correct answers; 0–4 points – unsatisfactory grade, less than 50% correct answers.

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Pundzius J. et al.	2013	Surgery	Volumes I and II	Kaunas, UAB "Vitaie Litera"
Strupas K., Gulla A., Želvys A., Sokolovas V., Petrulionis M.	2019	Guide to transplantation of abdominal cavity organs	Teaching aid	Vilnius, "Standartų spaustuvė"
Doherty G.M.	2025	Current Diagnosis & Treatment: Surgery, 16th edition	Textbook	The McGraw-Hill Education
Recommended reading				
				https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/Book.aspx?bookid=3532
Brunicaudi F.C. et al.	2019	Schwartz's Principles of Surgery, 11th edition	Textbook	The McGraw-Hill Education https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/Book.aspx?bookid=2576
-	-	Lecturers' video lectures uploaded to the VMA and their lecture notes	-	-
-	-	surgery videos: https://accesssurgery.mhmedical.com		
Additional reading				
Beiša V.	2006	Thyroid surgery	Teaching aid	Vilnius, Inforas
Beiša V.	2008	Diagnosis and surgical treatment of primary hyperparathyroidism	Teaching aid	Vilnius, Inforas
Noreika L.	2002	Topography of the peritoneum	Teaching aid	Vilnius, VU Press
Pundzius J.	2008	Clinical abdominal examination	Teaching aid	Vilnius, Charibė

Žeromskas P., Poškus E.	2010	Notes on surgical coloproctology	Teaching aid	Vilnius, VU Press
Strupas K.	2013	Liver transplantation	Scientific monograph	Vilnius, VU Press
Žeromskas P. Stundienė I.	2015	Functional coloproctology and fundamentals of pelviperineology	Teaching aid	Vilnius, VU Press
Brimas G.	2005	Surgical treatment of obesity	Scientific monograph	Vilnius, Ciklonas
Simutis G.	2005	Surgical diseases of the gallbladder and bile ducts	Teaching aid	Vilnius, VU Press
Strupas K., Simutis G., Kontrimavičiūtė E., V.Uvarovas	2008	Diagnostic and treatment assessment systems in clinical surgery	Teaching aid	Kaunas, Vitae Litera
Strupas K.	2004	Peritonitis	Scientific monograph	Vilnius, VU Press
Šileikis A.	2008	Acute pancreatitis	Scientific monograph	Vilnius, VU Press
Townsend C. Jr. et al.	2012	Sabiston Textbook of Surgery, 19th edition	Textbook	Saunders, Elsevier
Dan L. Longo, Anthony S. Fauci	2016	Harrison's Gastroenterology and Hepatology, 3rd edition	Textbook	McGraw Hill
Edited by Stephen C. Hauser	2018	Mayo Clinic Gastroenterology and Hepatology Board Review, 5th edition.	Textbook	Oxford University Press
Edited by Shanthi Srinivasan, Lawrence S. Friedman	2017	Sitaraman and Friedman's Essentials of Gastroenterology	Textbook	John Wiley & Sons
-	-	www.ueg.eu	Various guideli nes	UEG online
-	-	www.esge.com	Webinars, e- learning	ESGE
-	-	UpToDate	Continuousl y updated clinical information	Company in the Wolters Kluwer Health division of Wolters Kluwer
-	-	free Surgery 101 podcasts for medical students: <a href="http://ITUNES.APPLE.COM/P
ODCAST/SURGERY-
101/ID293184847">HTTP:ITUNES.APPLE.COM/P ODCAST/SURGERY- 101/ID293184847		