

SAC in General Surgery
General Surgery Critical Conditions

Case Based Discussions (CBDs) are designed to assess judgement and decision making.

The SAC in General Surgery consider the following list to cover a range of conditions where a misdiagnosis or mismanagement can result in devastating consequences for life or limb.

The 2013 General Surgery Curriculum contains the requirement for 10 CBDs to certification level in each of (i.e. 30 in all):

1. Emergency general surgery
2. The trainee's special interest
3. All the other components of general surgery together

It is expected that the topics chosen for these requirements should include the conditions on this list of critical conditions.

General

- Assessment of the acute abdomen
Include differential diagnosis, operative and conservative treatment in the discussion
- Strangulated / obstructed hernia
- Intestinal obstruction
Include small and large bowel obstruction in the discussion
- Post-operative haemorrhage
Include different operative sites (e.g. neck surgery) in the discussion
- Acute gastrointestinal haemorrhage
Include both upper and lower GI bleeding in the discussion
- Blunt / penetrating abdominal injury
Include physiological response and management of blunt and penetrating injury in the discussion
- Necrotising fasciitis
Include other severe soft tissue infections in the discussion (e.g. diabetic foot infection)
- Sepsis
Include recognition and management in the discussion

Colorectal

- Acute colitis / toxic megacolon
- Lower GI anastomotic leak
- Faecal peritonitis

UGI

- Biliary sepsis
Include all causes and their management in the discussion
- Acute pancreatitis
- Oesophageal perforation
- Upper GI anastomotic leak

Vascular

- Ruptured AAA
- Acute limb ischaemia
- Compartment syndrome