

Teaching Suture

Lesson Plan for All Types of Learners

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Educators should be well aware that all students do not learn in the same way. In fact, in any classroom you will find what researchers have identified as different types of learning styles or thinking. Individuals may be categorized as right-brain thinkers or left-brain thinkers, or according to Kolb's learning style inventory, they may be classified as divergent thinkers, assimilative thinkers, convergent thinkers, or accommodative thinkers.

The teaching style used by any instructor usually reflects his or her own learning style. When we

develop lesson plans, it is important to design the lesson so that not only students who learn the same way as we do can learn, but so that students with different styles can also learn.

Lesson plans should include activities that facilitate all learning styles as much as possible. Right-brain thinkers and left-brain thinkers can be incorporated into Kolb's learning style inventory; thus, if you design lesson plans based on the four styles identified by Kolb, you provide instruction that facilitates learning for all students (Figure 1). This lesson plan was devised to teach two specific objectives that are included in a general surgery clinical course. Students will be able to identify the following supplies appropriate for use in general surgery: (1) specific ligating

materials and (2) specific wound closure materials.

Activities to help students learn each objective were designed specifically to appeal to each learning style. Students may not love all of the learning activities required in the form of assignments, but each student should like at least one activity since they were designed for each type of learner.

The ensuing lesson plan was intended to be used during the general surgery clinical experiences of our second-year surgical technology students. The learning activities can be summarized as follows:

1. Each student must keep a clinical notebook recording data obtained from the surgeon's preference list about ligatures and suture materials.

(1) Divergent Thinker/Learner (Learns by gathering information)

Students will be assigned to check surgeon's preference list to gather data about ligatures and suture materials for each assigned case. Data to be recorded in a small clinical notebook.

(2) Assimilative Thinker/Learner (Learns by organizing information)

Data collection sheets were designed for students.
Part I - Ligating Materials
Part I - Wound Closure Materials

Objectives

- Identify specific ligating materials that would be appropriate to use for each area of general surgery.
- Identify specific wound closure materials that would be appropriate to use for each area of general surgery.

(3) Convergent Thinker/Learner (Learns by making decisions or by problem solving)

Forms were designed for listing of conclusions based on data collection sheets.
Part II - Ligating Materials
Part III - Wound Closure Materials

(4) Accommodative Thinker/Learner (Learns by application of content learned)

As the course progresses, students will be asked to begin predicting and anticipating the ligating and suture material needs of the surgeon.

Figure 1. Lesson plan designed for the four major styles of learning.

Surgical Technology Program
ST Clinical Practice I • 4551
General Surgery • Ligating Materials

Name _____

The purpose of this activity is to help you formulate conclusions about **what every scrub should know about ligating materials used in general surgery**. The ability to formulate valid conclusions enables the scrub to predict, anticipate the needs of the surgeon.

Part I - Data Collection Sheet

Directions: You are assigned daily to specified operative procedures. Record the specific name of each procedure under the appropriate area of surgery on the chart. Record the information pertinent to the ligating materials that you used for each procedure on the chart.

Area of Surgery	Method(s) of Ligation Used	Absorbable or Nonabsorbable	Gauge(s) Used	Specific Names of Item, Materials Used
Biliary				
Upper GI				
Gastric				
Bowel				
Rectal				
Breast				
GYN				

Figure 2. Sample data collection sheet for ligating materials.

Surgical Technology Program
ST Clinical Practice I • 4551
General Surgery • Wound Closure Materials

Name _____

The purpose of this activity is to help you formulate conclusions about **what every scrub should know about wound closure materials used in general surgery**. The ability to formulate valid conclusions enables the scrub to predict, anticipate the needs of the surgeon.

Part I - Data Collection Sheet

Directions: You are assigned daily to specified operative procedures. Record the specific name of each procedure under the appropriate area of surgery on the chart. Record the information pertinent to the closure of each tissue layer on the chart.

Area of Surgery	Absorbable or Nonabsorbable	Gauge(s) Used	Specific Names of Item, Materials Used	Type, Code of Needle Used
Biliary				
Upper GI				
Gastric				
Bowel				
Rectal				
Breast				
GYN				

Figure 3. Sample data collection sheet for wound closure materials.

General Surgery Ligatures

Name _____

Part II: Using the Collected Data to Formulate Conclusions About General Surgery Ligatures.

Directions: Based upon the data that you have collected during the term, list specific conclusions that can be made regarding ligatures used for each area of general surgery procedures.

Biliary Procedures:

Upper GI Procedures:

Gastric Procedures:

Bowel Procedures:

Rectal Procedures:

Breast Procedures:

GYN Procedures:

Figure 4. Sample worksheet for conclusions on ligatures.

General Surgery Wound Closure Suture Material

Name _____

Part II: Using the Collected Data to Formulate Conclusions About Wound Closure Materials Used in General Surgery.

Directions: Based upon the data that you have collected during the term, list specific conclusions that can be made regarding wound closure materials used for each area of general surgery procedures.

Biliary Procedures:

Upper GI Procedures:

Gastric Procedures:

Bowel Procedures:

Rectal Procedures:

Breast Procedures:

GYN Procedures:

Figure 5. Sample worksheet for conclusions on wound closure materials.

2. Each student will record appropriate information on the simple data collection sheets (Figures 2 and 3).

3. Each student will be asked to formulate conclusions about the usage of ligature and wound closure materials based upon the data collected. Forms were designed for this purpose (Figures 4 and 5).

4. During the course, students

will be asked to begin predicting and anticipating the surgeon's ligature and wound closure needs.

When designing instructional activities, don't leave some of your learners out in the cold. Engage all of your students in the learning process by including activities to accommodate all learning styles. Δ

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