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Department of Plastic Surgery

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**Overview:**

- Duration: 4 weeks
- Students: 4<sup>th</sup> year surgical sub-internship
- Location: NMCS D Plastic Surgery Department

**Introduction:**

The Plastic Surgery clinical clerkship at Naval Medical Center San Diego is a four-week rotation aimed at 4<sup>th</sup> year medical students interested in a surgical sub-internship in a surgical subspecialty. Past students have targeted a career in general surgery, orthopedic surgery, urology, head & neck surgery, emergency medicine, and plastic surgery. The rotation is centered at NMCS D, with opportunities for patient care interactions at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton and didactics at University of California, San Diego. The Plastic Surgery Clinic provides the full breadth of plastic surgery procedures and has a fully integrated Wound Care Clinic.

**Clinical & Educational Experience:**

- Serve as surgical sub-intern under a General Surgery PGY-2 resident
  - Daily rounding on inpatients
  - Daily operative responsibilities
  - Weekly clinic responsibilities
  - Once-per month Craniofacial Clinic responsibilities
  - Wound care clinic exposure
  - In-patient and Emergency Room consultation coverage
- Direct daily interaction with surgical staff
- Learn the basics of wound healing and wound care
- Master the basics of simple and complex wound closure to include skin graft and local or remote tissue flaps
- Develop an understanding of the following didactic topics:
  - Suture & needle material science
  - Simple and complex wound closure

- Skin grafting
- Negative Pressure Wound therapy
- Local and remote tissue flap wound coverage
- Craniofacial reconstruction including cleft lip and palate
- Breast reconstruction
- Cosmetic surgery basics
- Didactics
  - End-of-rotation presentation on a “hot topic” in plastic surgery
  - Weekly assigned readings