Action plan based on the student feedback received in the 2nd semester of the 2020/2021 academic year

Department: Department of Surgical Research and Techniques Faculty: Faculty of Medicine

Referring to the student evaluations in the second semester of the academic year 2020/2021, the Department of Surgical Research and Techniques, Heart and Vascular Center of Semmelweis University, prepares the following action plans for the education of third-year students.

1) Already in the previous academic year, we approached the leadership of the Student Council to be a liaison between our department and the students and gather their opinions on education, to see the gaps and areas of concern, not just trying to act based on scores. In the fall of 2020, we had a face-to-face meeting with the Student Council, where several staff members of the department participated. We listened to the objections and discussed how to improve the points of concern. One of the main criticisms was that there are no education videos available online. At the request of the department, the Student Council has agreed to help prepare for the practical examination by producing videos, for which they will provide the technical and human resources. Some of the videos have been produced, but unfortunately, they cannot be shared due to several technical objections. We plan to re-produce them.

2) A significant number of students like our course, as we receive specific requests for additional internship opportunities. In response to requests from students in previous years, we have also started three elective practical courses such as beginner and advanced stitching techniques and advanced laparoscopy.

3) In the practicals we teach basic steps and techniques that are time-consuming for repeating and often seem monotonous. We therefore try to vary the exercises with new challenges.

a.) We make practice the same type of stitches in different situations, using timing to encourage students to work faster but with precision.

b.) In the laparoscopic exercises, we provide students with more varied tasks.

c.) The chance to take part in two competitions during the semester is motivating. Many students would like to participate both the suture and laparoscopic competitions.

4.) It would be useful to purchase a laparoscopic simulator to make the exercises more varied and to use in residency training as well. We are looking for funding for buying on of this.

5) We consider it important to ask the students' opinion verbally at the end of the semester and to take further action based on this. This will be based on a short departmental 'feedback', where we will also ask for a short description and justification, which could help or further work.

Our staff is highly experienced and are committed to teaching, we will do our best to make our practices even more varied and to make our students feel the importance of the subject of Basic Surgical Techniques. We are always open to the face-to-face discussion avoiding the rude comments.