

# Surgery Residency Program

Original ACGME accreditation date: 10/01/1970



Program Director Name (Year appointed)

Jennifer F. Preston, MD (2018)

ACGME Current Approved Complement

45, currently have 43 residents

Accreditation Status

Continued Accreditation

Length of Training

5 years

## Accomplishments

- ▶ In the 2020-2021 academic year, we shifted to an academic half day on Thursday mornings. This allowed protected time for residents to engage in academic, wellness and administrative activities.
- ▶ We added an associate program director for curriculum, who has already made significant improvements to the didactic schedule.
- ▶ Our residents showed amazing leadership, resiliency and strength in taking care of critically ill COVID patients. They modified schedules and really took care of each other through an extremely challenging time.
- ▶ The Department of Surgery chair, Nathaniel Soper, MD, is extremely supportive of the general surgery training program. Dr. Soper instituted rotating weekly meetings with each PGY class to allow one-on-one time with the department chair.
- ▶ We developed a rural surgery training track in Billings, Montana and matched our first dedicated rural surgery resident in 2021.

## Strengths

1. The residents enjoy a high volume, varied clinical experience that exposes them to the full breadth of general surgery including complex surgical subspecialty care, trauma/acute care surgery, minimally invasive surgery including robotics and rural general surgery practice.
2. We have long term community partners that allow our residents the opportunity to experience diverse practice settings with varied patient populations including urban community general surgery practice at Banner Desert Medical Center, serving the veterans at the VA Phoenix Health Care, pediatric surgery at Banner Cardon's Children's Medical Center and a more traditional rural general surgery practice serving the Alaskan Native population at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage.
3. We pride ourselves on the supportive environment we have built for the residents, which includes a collegial relationship with faculty, a strong commitment to mentorship and resident wellness.
4. The residents are a diverse group who prioritize camaraderie.
5. We have a strong, comprehensive educational curriculum that includes weekly didactics, M&M and Grand Rounds, monthly journal club, routine mock orals, scholarly project program and a longitudinal simulation curriculum.