Shadowing in Lima, Peru

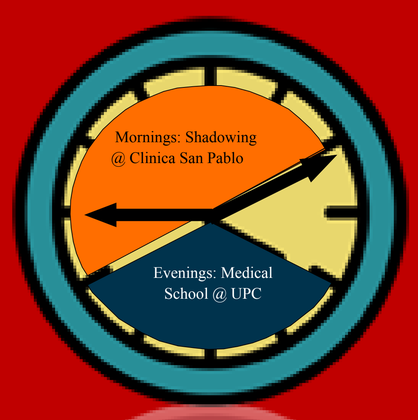
Natalya Surmachevska

When

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Where

How and Who



Clinica San Pablo (see 4 cases):

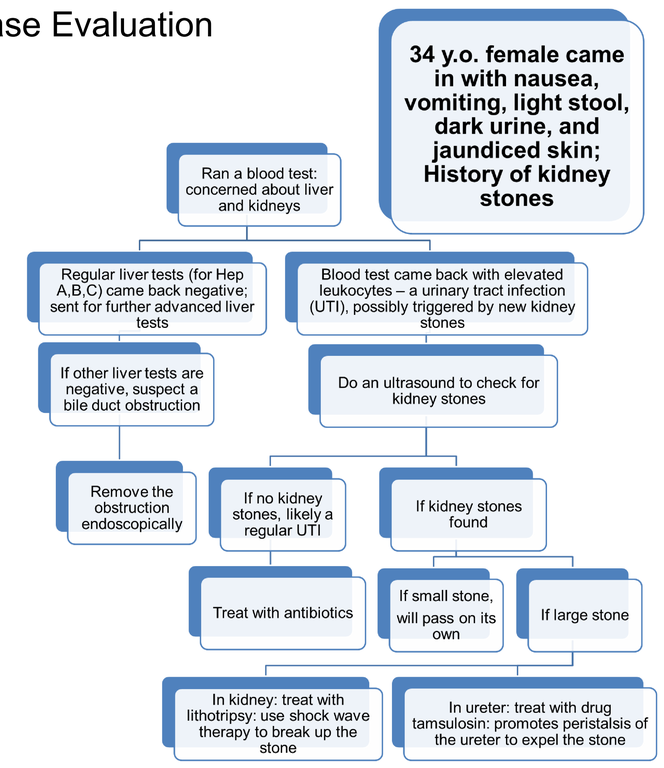
Shadowing residents & physicians

Medical School:

Participating in hands-on evening courses with first year med school students

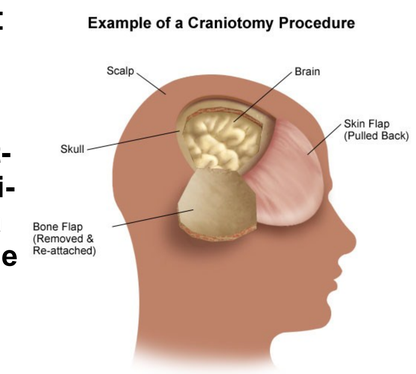
Case 1

Internal Medicine: Schematic of Case Evaluation



Case 2

Intensive Care Unit: Head Trauma

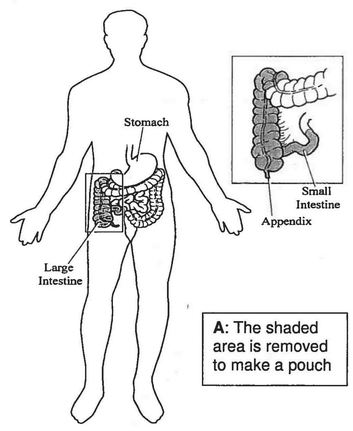


- **36 y.o. male presented in ER one day prior with head trauma caused by a machine launching a rock at the side of his head**
- Had an emergency craniotomy to reduce pressure from the intracranial bleeding and give the brain space to swell
- In the ICU, has shunt in his brain to drain excess blood and CSF; is conscious and semi-responsive
- CT scans and x-rays showed no major fractures or brain tissue abnormalities, just bleeding
- Physicians considered him to be extremely fortunate, likely to fully recover

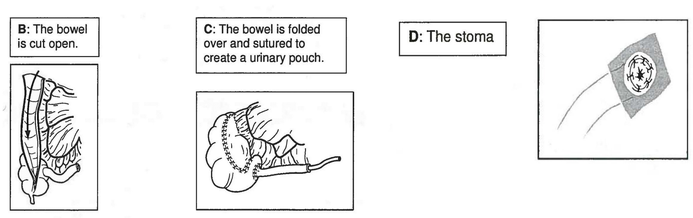
Case 3

Oncology: Urinary Bladder Neoplasia

- **70 y.o. male, hospitalized because of urinary bladder neoplasia (cancer)**



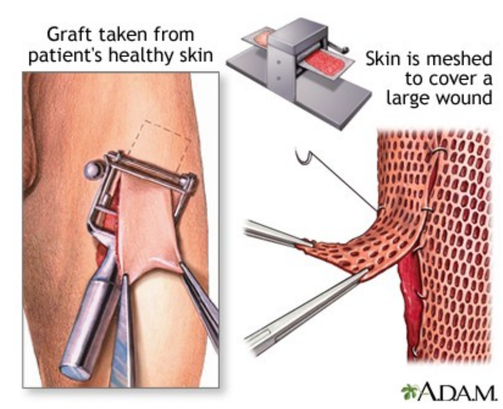
- Had bladder removed and piece of his intestine converted into a new bladder
- Intestine temporarily continues to produce mucus secretions after surgery (still behaves like an intestine), making patient susceptible to infection



Case 4

Surgery: Skin Graft

- **25 y.o. female presented in ER two weeks prior with chemical burns on both ankles**



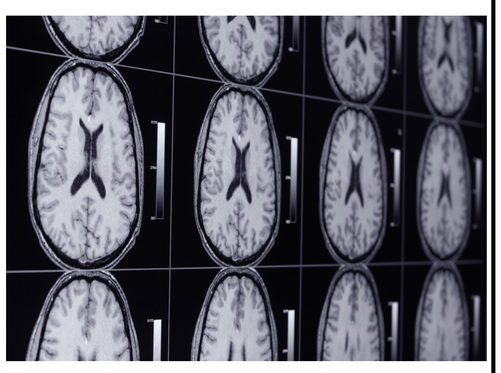
- Burns would not heal on their own, so skin graft surgery had to be performed under general anesthesia
- Skin was taken via a split-thickness graft from patient's right inner thigh
- Graft was meshed — 1 inch wide piece of skin stretched to cover a 4 inch wide burn per ankle
- Graft was attached with sutures and covered to heal

Medical School

Learning how to take blood pressure manually

Simulations looking at pulmonary, cardiac, and neurological symptoms

Learning how to do an arterial puncture to obtain arterial blood



Reading brain scans — identifying hematoma, tumor, and stroke

Also participated in daily case analyses with a group of other students, looking at hypothetical patients with pulmonary, cardiac, and neurological symptoms and coming up with a differential diagnosis and treatment.

Special Thanks

Dr. Fina Camet Piccone, Directora de la Oficina Internacional, Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC)

Carolina Caballero León, Asistente de la Oficina Internacional, UPC

Clinica San Pablo Physicians and Residents

Dr. Bill Hunter, Director of International Outreach, Lehigh University

Dr. Jennifer Swann, Department of Biological Sciences, Lehigh University

Lehigh University College of Arts and Sciences 2012 Grant for Experiential Learning in Health

UPC Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas

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