

CASE REPORT: Active Learning Through Observation in Surgery (ALTOS)

Prepared by:

Overview of case¹:

Active learning Tip	Notes about Active Learning in <i>this case</i>	Take away messages to improve own performance
1. Actively Retract		
2. Watch How Others Use Instruments		
3. Show Me		
4. Watch the “Take Over”		
5. Unplanned Events, Complications & Errors		

- Other notes:

- 1or 2 priorities for future observations?

- 1or 2 Priorities for improving surgical skills?

¹ REMEMBER to exercise caution about patient and privacy in overview description

5 Tips for Enhancing Engagement and Learning in the Operating Room

<p>1. Actively Retract</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay alert and engaged when you are ‘just retracting’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay specific attention to the anatomy, the approach, the way instruments are handled, • Watch and note the way that assistants are used, the flow of the case etc. • Observation is your time to take in the bigger picture of both the patient case and the flow and dynamics of the team interactions
<p>2. Watch How Others Use Instruments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice holding instruments in your hands and mimic the movements you see <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch how other operators/staff use their instruments. • How do they hold them? • How do they handle the tissues? • Why did they choose that instrument for that task?
<p>3. Show Me</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are struggling or unsure with a task <i>ask others to demonstrate how to do it for you</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no shame in a “show me” moment. • Ask for specific feedback • Being trusted includes knowing when you need information or assistance
<p>4. Watch the “Take Over”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay special attention and make notes when staff “takes over” a case <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did they do differently? • Did they change the patient’s position? • Did they alter the direction of retraction? • Did they reposition their own body or change the angle of their approach? • Did they choose a different instrument? • Did they handle the tissues differently? • Did they change tactics altogether?
<p>5. Unplanned Events, Complications & Errors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observing unplanned events, complications and errors are key learning moments to watch and also mentally rehearse what you would do/not in same circumstance(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the staff surgeon and OR team respond? • What steps did they take to address it? • What safety measures were taken (if any)? • How did the case proceed from that event? • If a repair was required, how was it performed?