

A: In a typical week, we have OR days and office days. On the OR days, we start every day with an early educational session with the residents. This can be a case conference, Grand Rounds or a talk on the subject of the week. By 7 a.m., we see the first patients of the day, checking the last lab work and seeing that the OR rooms are set up and prepared to go.

By 7:30 a.m., we begin the first cases. Most days, we will take care of several patients for elective procedures but urgent and emergent cases are interspersed when necessary. On OR days, most time is spent in patient care or teaching. To do so we use our bedside laptops to do medical searches. Vanderbilt patients are usually complex. We have some clinical research going on too.

It is very busy work and physically demanding -we often walk 5-7 miles a day! If an anesthesiologist is not on the call team, their day typically ends at 5-6 p.m., depending on the cases in the rooms. Overnight call is infrequent in our group. Office days are set aside for meetings, preparing lectures, papers and residency business. Preoperative evaluation clinic hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m.