Below you will find the topics and their accompanying key references for the 2021 Comprehensive General Surgery module of the General Surgery Continuous Certification Assessment. References that are available open source are indicated with a green star ★ and the entire citation is a link to the open access source. References that are not available open access have a link in their PubMed ID to the abstract.

Diplomates are neither required nor expected to read all of these references before or during the completion of the assessment.

To view all references for the Comprehensive General Surgery module, see this PDF.

Abdominal Wall Reconstruction:


Breast Mass:


Cardiac Arrhythmias:


Cholecystitis:


Groin Pain in Athletes (“Sports Hernia”):

Hepatic Trauma:


Hernias, including Inguinal and Femoral:


Oncoplastic Surgery:


Pancreatic Neoplasms:


Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma:


Parathyroid Cancer:

Pelvic Fractures:

[PMID: 22182895]

Polyposis Syndrome:

[PMID: 25645574]

Retroperitoneal Mass:

[PMID: 25468494]

Splenic Trauma:

[PMID: 28828034]

Surgical Methods to Reduce Re-excision:

[PMID: 26215198]

Thoracic Trauma, Penetrating:


Thyroid Nodule: