

[Medicinski fakultet u Rijeci]

## Curriculum 2025/2026

[Za kolegij]

# Neurosurgery

Study programme: **Medical Studies in English (R)**  
[Sveučilišni integrirani prijediplomski i diplomski studij]  
Department: **[Katedra za neurokirurgiju]**  
Course coordinator: **doc. dr. sc. Šimić Hrvoje, dr. med.**

Year of study: **5**  
ECTS: **1**  
Incentive ECTS: **0 (0.00%)**  
Foreign language: **Possibility of teaching in a foreign language**

## **Course information:**

The course in Neurosurgery is obligatory course during the fifth year of the medical studies, consisting of 8 hours of lectures, 4 hours of seminars and 8 hours of clinical practice, which is total of 20 hours (1 ECTS). It is performed in the wards of Clinic of Neurosurgery, Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka, in its operation theaters, and in the Lecture hall of Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka (Sušak). The aim of the course for the students is to adopt basic knowledge and skills in the neurosurgery and neurotraumatology. After getting information about specific neurosurgical approach to neurological diseases and neurotraumatological cases, the student will learn about advisable operative ways of their treatment.

The contents are a part of neurological contents that are already known to the students from the fourth year and represent its logical continuation offering modern methods of operative treatment. The importance of the decompressive and pathologic substrate ablation is stressed: be it a tumour, haematoma or malformation. Also, operations of the CSF diversion are shown, as well as the decompression of the spinal canal. A short description of the surgery of the inflammatory and purulent processes, and modern microsurgical methods, ventriculostomy, endoscopy and minimally invasive procedures will be given. In neurotraumatology the explanation of the common injuries to the neurocranium and spine, as well as to the brain and spinal cord and peripheral nerves will be given. The importance of the team approach in their modern complex treatment is explained (the teams consisting of the urgent medicine physician, intensive care unit – anesthesiologists and neurosurgeons and neurorehabilitationists is stressed. Upon completing the course student will be able to approach these patients with comprehension, be able to distinguish their illness, analyse symptoms and recommend best diagnostic and treatment options. The student will be able to do the follow up of such patient and recognize qualitative and quantitative disturbances of the consciousness, focal neurological deficits (such as monoparesis vs hemiparesis, aphasia, gait and coordination disturbances etc.), recognize the signs of elevated ICP, neurological signs in spinal cord injuries (para- and tetraplegia).

## **List of assigned reading:**

1. A comprehensive script representing lectures will be issued
2. Fundamentals of Neurosurgery, A Guide for Clinicians and Medical Students; A.F Joaquim, E. Ghizoni, H. Tedeschi, M.A.T. Ferreira – editors; Springer V. 2019.

## **List of optional reading:**

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## Curriculum:

### Lectures list (with titles and explanation):

#### **L1 Introduction - what is Central Nervous System - how to treat it surgically and Historical development of Neurosurgery (NS)**

Learning outcomes: to become familiar with the historical development of the neurosurgery, learn its subspecialties, become motivated in active taking part in the learning process.

#### **L2 Patophysiology of the elevated Intracranial Pressure (ICP) - External CSL drainage**

Learning outcomes: to understand what ICP is and about the basic patophysiology of the elevated ICP. The student will know in what ways the CSL can be derived and how to recognize and follow these patients.

#### **L3 Spinal neurosurgery - degenerative spine**

Learning outcomes: understand what discal hernia is, become able to indicate the best diagnostic methods and advice the treatment options - both for cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine.

#### **L4 Pediatric neurosurgery**

Learning outcomes: to be able to describe and recognize common congenital malformations, especially to be able to recognize early signs of conatal hydrocephalus and its treatment. The student will also be informed about the common tumours in childhood.

#### **L5 Tumors of the brain and spine - principles of diagnostic, operative indications, basic operative techniques**

Learning outcomes: the student will know which tumours are benign and malignant and their characteristics, will be familiar with the WHO grading - get the basic knowledge of the meningiomas, gliomas and metastatic brain tumours.

#### **L6 Neurotraumatology - head injuries**

Learning outcomes: to accept most important principle of ultimate urgency in the treatment of the severe head injuries; the student will be able to recognize the mild, moderate and severe head injury. The student will be able to understand and urgently react in treating the acute elevation of the ICP.

#### **L7 Neurotraumatology - spine injuries**

Learning outcomes: after completing the learning process the student will know the specifics in such injuries - stability of the spinal column, the neurological lesions and the principles of the treatment - decompression and stabilisation of the spine

#### **L8 Vascular neurosurgery - intracranial aneurysms**

Learning outcomes: to differentiate arterial and venous lesions; know where the most typical aneurysms are and what their symptoms are; know basic types of therapy - clipping, wrapping and coiling the aneurysms.

### Seminars list (with titles and explanation):

#### **S1 Basics in surgical neuroanatomy**

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#### **S2 CSL derivation - VPA**

-

#### **S3 Contemporary and future treatment methods in NS**

-

#### **S4 Exam preparations**

-

**Exercises list (with titles and explanation):****P1 Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater Intensive care unit in NS**

Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater

Intensive care unit in NS

**P2 Brain tumours**

Brain tumours

**P3 Degenerative spine diseases**

Degenerative spine diseases

**P4 Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation**

Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation

**P5 VPA systems; spine - immobilization; typical head bandages.**

VPA systems; spine - immobilization; typical head bandages.

**P6 Peripheral nerves - typical diseases and injuries**

Peripheral nerves - typical diseases and injuries

**P7 Ambulatory patients**

Ambulatory patients

**P8 Presence in the operating theater**

Presence in the operating theater

**Student obligations:**

The student has to follow all the parts of the course and actively take part in practical learning. They should also use the literature advised.

**Exam (exam taking, description of the written/oral/practical part of the exam, point distribution, grading criteria):**

The ECTS system of cumulating the points will be applied: According to which the number of ECTS for the Neurosurgery is 1. The student's activity during all the modalities of the training will be followed, and the final written exam can bring up to 50 points (the first 50 points can be achieved during the training) The student has to gain minimally half of the maximal points - 25 to be able to take part in the written exam, and another 25 points on the written exam - totalling in min. 50 points. The final exam is done in the written form of a test - finally the student can successfully finish the course getting the mark - passed (final colloquium)

**Other notes (related to the course) important for students:**

The information to the students will be distributed via student representatives, through net - info of the Chair for the neurosurgery, and also will be presented individually on request (secretary of the Chair)

## COURSE HOURS 2025/2026

### Neurosurgery

<b>Lectures</b> (Place and time or group)	<b>Exercises</b> (Place and time or group)	<b>Seminars</b> (Place and time or group)
<b>01.10.2025</b>		
<p>L1 Introduction – what is Central Nervous System – how to treat it surgically and Historical development of Neurosurgery (NS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P5-111] (08:30 - 11:30) [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul> <p>L2 Pathophysiology of the elevated Intracranial Pressure (ICP) – External CSL drainage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P5-111] (08:30 - 11:30) [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul> <p>L3 Spinal neurosurgery – degenerative spine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P5-111] (08:30 - 11:30) [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul> <p>L4 Pediatric neurosurgery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P5-111] (08:30 - 11:30) [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul>		
doc. dr. sc. Šimić Hrvoje, dr. med. [295]		
<b>03.10.2025</b>		
<p>L5 Tumors of the brain and spine – principles of diagnostic, operative indications, basic operative techniques:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P22-Nefrologija] (08:30 - 11:30) [3603] [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul> <p>L6 Neurotraumatology – head injuries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P22-Nefrologija] (08:30 - 11:30) [3603] [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul> <p>L7 Neurotraumatology – spine injuries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P22-Nefrologija] (08:30 - 11:30) [3603] [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul> <p>L8 Vascular neurosurgery – intracranial aneurysms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [P22-Nefrologija] (08:30 - 11:30) [3603] [295]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ 1</li></ul></li></ul>		
naslovni asistent Vukas Dujic, dr. med. [3603] · doc. dr. sc. Šimić Hrvoje, dr. med. [295]		
<b>07.10.2025</b>		

P1 Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater Intensive care unit in NS:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P2 Brain tumours:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P3 Degenerative spine diseases:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P4 Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P5 VPA systems; spine – immobilization; typical head bandages.:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P6 Peripheral nerves – typical diseases and injuries:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P7 Ambulatory patients:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 1
  - NEURO 3

P8 Presence in the operating theater:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2724] [1960]

naslovna asistentica Gavranić Ana, dr. med. [2724] · naslovna asistentica Kolbah Barbara, dr. med. [1960]

**10.10.2025**

S1 Basics in surgical neuroanatomy:

- [P12 - KBC SUŠAK] (08:00 - 09:30) [3603]
  - 1

S2 CSL derivation - VPA:

- [P12 - KBC SUŠAK] (08:00 - 09:30) [3603]
  - 1

S3 Contemporary and future treatment methods in NS:

- [P12 - KBC SUŠAK] (09:30 - 11:00) [295]
  - 1

S4 Exam preparations:

- [P12 - KBC SUŠAK] (09:30 - 11:00) [295]
  - 1

naslovni asistent Vukas Duje, dr. med. [3603] · doc. dr. sc. Šimić Hrvoje, dr. med. [295]

**14.10.2025**

P1 Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater Intensive care unit in NS:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 2

P2 Brain tumours:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 2

P3 Degenerative spine diseases:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 2

P4 Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 2

P5 VPA systems; spine – immobilization; typical head bandages.:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 2

P6 Peripheral nerves – typical diseases and injuries:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 2

P7 Ambulatory patients:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sestanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [295] [1958] [2724]
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4
  - NEURO 4

**17.10.2025**

P1 Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater Intensive care unit in NS:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P2 Brain tumours:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P3 Degenerative spine diseases:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P4 Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P5 VPA systems; spine – immobilization; typical head bandages.:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P6 Peripheral nerves – typical diseases and injuries:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P7 Ambulatory patients:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

P8 Presence in the operating theater:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [1959] [1960]
  - NEURO 5
  - NEURO 6

**21.10.2025**

P1 Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater Intensive care unit in NS:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P2 Brain tumours:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P3 Degenerative spine diseases:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P4 Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P5 VPA systems; spine – immobilization; typical head bandages.:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P6 Peripheral nerves – typical diseases and injuries:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P7 Ambulatory patients:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 8
  - NEURO 7

P8 Presence in the operating theater:

- [KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke] (08:00 - 14:00) [2727] [1961]

**List of lectures, seminars and practicals:**

LECTURES (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
L1 Introduction - what is Central Nervous System - how to treat it surgically and Historical development of Neurosurgery (NS)	1	[P5-111]
L2 Patophysiology of the elevated Intracranial Pressure (ICP) - External CSL drainage	1	[P5-111]
L3 Spinal neurosurgery - degenerative spine	1	[P5-111]
L4 Pediatric neurosurgery	1	[P5-111]
L5 Tumors of the brain and spine - principles of diagnostic, operative indications, basic operative techniques	1	[P22-Nefrologija]
L6 Neurotraumatology - head injuries	1	[P22-Nefrologija]
L7 Neurotraumatology - spine injuries	1	[P22-Nefrologija]
L8 Vascular neurosurgery - intracranial aneurysms	1	[P22-Nefrologija]

EXERCISES (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
P1 Getting used to the NS wards, neurosurgical op. theater Intensive care unit in NS	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P2 Brain tumours	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P3 Degenerative spine diseases	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P4 Neurotraumatology, Neurorehabilitation	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P5 VPA systems; spine - immobilization; typical head bandages.	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P6 Peripheral nerves - typical diseases and injuries	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P7 Ambulatory patients	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]
P8 Presence in the operating theater	1	[KBC Sušak - Neurokirurgija - soba za sastanke]

SEMINARS (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
S1 Basics in surgical neuroanatomy	1	[P12 - KBC SUŠAK]
S2 CSL derivation - VPA	1	[P12 - KBC SUŠAK]
S3 Contemporary and future treatment methods in NS	1	[P12 - KBC SUŠAK]
S4 Exam preparations	1	[P12 - KBC SUŠAK]

**EXAM DATES (final exam):**

1.	23.10.2025.
2.	18.02.2026.
3.	29.06.2026.
4.	03.09.2026.
5.	18.09.2026.