Case Review Tip #3: Documenting Complications

- Generally, ABFAS expects your case submission to document complications directly related to the procedure.
- To document complications, the case submission should include details on the reason for the complication, whether it is related to the procedure, and any corrective measures taken.
- Complications may or may not be a direct result of action by the surgeon. ABFAS expects candidates to document whether they were able to prevent or mitigate the complication.
- ABFAS expects candidates to document complications that occurred after the initial procedure (fixation loosening after several months, etc.), even if they were not directly related to the procedure.
- If complications are infected, the documentation should include the treatment of the complication through drainage and systemic antibiotics.

Tips for Capturing Images:

- Use a digital camera or a good mobile phone camera to capture an image.
- Use a lightbox to photograph the image.
- Download, save in jpg, jpeg, or png format.
- Do not take a picture of the image from a monitor or computer screen.
- If you need to take an image of a computer screen, capture the hard copy images.

For the initial procedure, trauma cases do not require weight-bearing pre-op images. For RRA cases, first ray and RRA cases need to include weight-bearing pre-op and post-op images. In other cases, if it is a weight-bearing situation and you have a hard copy, you may submit a hard copy image.