IMPROVING SURGICAL TRAINING, SCOTTISH PILOT

WHAT’S INCLUDED IN THE SIMULATION BUDGET?

2nd June 2020

The Improving Surgical Training Scottish pilot webpage is at https://www.scotlanddeanery.nhs.scot/trainee-information/improving-surgical-training-programme-ist/.

This document gives details for trainees of the simulation strategy that is provided for that pilot, ie all posts in the East and West of Scotland Core Surgical Training programmes. Funding for the elements of this strategy is provided by Scottish Govt through NES, in addition to the pre-existing study leave budget.

**Induction days** in August will be organised separately by the TPDs.

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**Boot Camp (year 1)**

“Scottish Surgical Boot Camp” is a 4-day, simulation-rich course in the Highland Clinical Skills Centre Inverness, covering a range of technical and non-technical skills and an induction to the community of practice.

Eg bowel and vascular anastomosis, skin flaps, laparoscopy. Prioritising and making effective phone calls. Situation awareness, decision making, communication and teamwork. Common error traps in surgery. Leading a ward round in simulation. Writing op notes. Communications skills challenges, resilience. How to get the most from your trainer. Starting out in research.
COVID: We plan to go ahead but with social distancing and other adaptations. Some components will be done virtually at times but it will still be necessary to come to Inverness. Please don’t share cars with others unless you usually co-habit. We are still looking into options for suitable accommodation – best not to book your own unless you live locally.

Dates:  
Sat 5th - Tues 8th September 2020  
Sat 19th - Tues 22nd September 2020  
Sat 24th – 27th October 2020

Book at www.surgicalbootcamps.com or www.rcsed.ac.uk  
IST trainees should not pay any course fee; the £750 will instead be charged directly to our Sim budget. There is however a returnable deposit.

CCrISP course (year 1)  
“Care of the Critically Ill Surgical Patient”. A 2-day simulation-rich course validated by the RCSEng and delivered in all the Surgical Royal Colleges. Please note the RAPID course is not currently accepted as a substitute.

Book with www.rcsed.ac.uk, www.rcpsg.ac.uk or www.rcseng.ac.uk

RCPSG dates are:  
10th-11th Nov 2020  
Further dates TBA

IST trainees should pay for the course and claim back through your TPD. It will then be charged to the sim budget, leaving your regular study leave allowance unaffected.

Monthly training days (years 1 and 2)  
10 or more themed monthly teaching days each year in the East (Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen) and 10 in the West (usually Glasgow or Lanarkshire). Themes may be specialty-specific (eg plastics or urology) or generic (eg consultation skills and consent). 70% attendance expected per trainee per year, and trainees can switch sides of the country to achieve this.  
The ICONS day, Managing Surgical Crisis day and the stoma training day are for year 2 trainees (dates TBC).  
The anatomy teaching is for year 1 trainees or for any year 2 trainees without MRCS part A.
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About 6-8 out of 10 training days will have a significant simulation component, mostly technical but also some non-technical. When necessary, they are hosted in a skills centre (RCSEd, DIHS, QEUH TLC, Kirklands or Suttie Centre).

COVID: This year we are running webinar format training only until end of December, then resuming the gathered, sim-based training from January, with appropriate measures in place.


Incentivised Laparoscopy Practice (year 1)

At induction day in August, trainees are instructed and issued with an eoSim. Online modules to follow and target metric scores to achieve. Practise alone, in skills clubs or in meetings with Educational Supervisor. Video upload and scoring for each of 6 modules. Final assessment and return of kit in April/May. Core level certificate of satisfactory completion required at ARCP. No-one receives a non-standard ARCP outcome on the basis of this alone, but it may be taken into account alongside other evidence of progression. Option to include advanced modules, competing for gold, silver and bronze awards.

VA Simulation (year 2)

This year we are offering a second take-home practice programme using kits posted out to you, which include instruments and 3D-printed hydrogel blood vessel models, again with a series of online tasks. This will appeal to CT2s or ST2s intending careers in any subspecialty. Details will be posted here by end of July. Meanwhile see the existing pilot programme at www.vasimulation.co.uk.
Local Skills Clubs (years 1 and 2)

We now have a group supporting regular one-hour skills practice sessions in local training hospitals, using eoSims and dry open surgical models. These can be alternated with journal clubs and CBD clubs. These clubs should ideally be trainee-driven with consultant support. They exist in 5 of the hospitals so far.

A range of instruments and consumables including suture supplies can be ordered from us at no charge, by e-mailing csmen@nes.scot.nhs.uk.

More information at induction.

Where skills clubs have not taken off, we are asking trainees and trainers to use some of the time in their regular meetings with their Educational Supervisor, to show them what tasks they are doing and ask for give some quick feedback on technique using the EO Sim kit.

Laparoscopy or arthroscopy course (year 2)

A 1- or 2-day comprehensive introduction to one of these modalities of minimally invasive surgery, including ergonomics, technique, use of energy, etc. Choose one of the following:-

i. **RCPSG one-day basic laparoscopic skills course** [https://rcpsg.ac.uk/events/basiclapskills](https://rcpsg.ac.uk/events/basiclapskills)

   28th Oct 2020, or 1st Dec 2020, or 5th March 2020. 10 weeks before the course date, it is opened up to non-IST bookings too, so book early to avoid disappointment.

   Book by e-mailing melanie.sinclair@rcpsg.ac.uk and let her know you are an IST year 2 trainee. You should not pay a fee – it will be charged directly to the IST budget. If however you have already booked online and paid, you can claim back through your TPD, to come off the sim budget not your study leave allowance.

ii. **Dundee two-day Core Skills in Laparoscopic Surgery Course**

   12th-13th Oct 2019, and further runs TBA.

   Book online at [https://dihs.dundee.ac.uk/courses/general-surgery/core-skills-laparoscopic-surgery-course](https://dihs.dundee.ac.uk/courses/general-surgery/core-skills-laparoscopic-surgery-course), but as an IST year 2 trainee you should not pay up front – they will charge our sim budget directly. If you have already booked and paid, it should be a discounted fee for IST (£450) and you can claim back through your TPD, to come off the sim budget not your study leave allowance.

iii. **Dundee 2-day Core arthroscopic skills course**

   Dates TBA.
BaSiCS- Basic Surgery Cadaver Skills (year 2)

A 2 day cadaver-based course provided by the RCPSG in the Clinical Anatomy and Skills Centre Glasgow. Puts together component skills into whole operations:

- Laparotomy, laparoscopy
- Laparoscopic / open appendicectomy
- Inguinal hernia repair
- Small bowel resection / anastomosis
- Approach to the femoral artery

www.rcpsg.ac.uk/events/cascbasics

11th-12th Feb 2021.

Book by e-mailing melanie.sinclair@rcpsg.ac.uk and let her know you are an IST CT2 trainee. You should not pay a fee – it will be charged directly to the IST budget.

There is no urology-equivalent course this year.

Simulation Lead: Prof Kenneth Walker kennethwalker@nhs.net
Training Programme Director, East: Mr Satheesh Yalamarthi satheesh.yalamarthi@nhs.net
Training Programme Director, West: Mr Mark Vella mark.vella@gmail.com
Deputy TPD, West: Mr Simon Gibson Simon.Gibson@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Project office csmen@nes.scot.nhs.uk

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