

Dear Trainee

Due to the impact of COVID on surgical training and re-deployment of trainees to other areas in order to support the COVID response, the TPD's in Core Surgical Training have reviewed the Global Objectives which are published and recognised by Trainees.

To reflect reduced training opportunities and the reduced availability of trainers we have revised the number of WBAs required. Whilst you should always aim to achieve the original numbers, as these demonstrate a good exposure to training, ARCP outcomes 2 or 3 will only be delivered should the reduced numbers not be recorded. The same level of consultant validation (50%) applies.

CT1				CT2	
Original Mandatory	New Mandatory	Original	New	Original	New
6 CEX	6 CEX	12 CEX	7 CEX	10 CEX	8 CEX
18 DOPS	18DOPS	14 DOPS	8 DOPS	10 DOPS	8 DOPS
		14CBD	10 CBD	10 CBD	8 CBD
		1 CEX consent	1 CEX consent	10 PBA	6 PBA
				1 CEX consent	1 CEX consent
24	24	(24 + 41)65	(24 + 26)50	41	31

In the same regards, whilst you should try and achieve 120 cases in your logbook, 100 cases would be accepted for an ARCP outcome 1, with 25% remaining as the requirement for the level of involvement at P/STU/STS.

Now is a good time to produce research, audits and publications, so we would expect one AoA, one OOT and one poster / presentation. Virtual presentation of research will be accepted.

Due to the way teaching is now delivered virtually, you are aware that 100% attendance at the live sessions or the recordings being watched within a four week window is required. We hope to commence practical skills teaching in the New Year and whilst you should make the most of this opportunity 70% attendance will remain the benchmark. Please attend and record attendance at all virtual training, whether this be through the CST Programme or outside of it.

You should still be able to complete at least one MSF in each year of training. Many trainees do one for each post.

With regards to the allowances which will be made for failure to complete MRCS by the end of Core Surgical Training, we await further clarification on the derogations which will be in place at the time of the ARCPs in the summer. The present derogations expire in March 2021 and whilst we recognise that this may cause trainees anxiety as to how their training may be affected, it is out of our hands. We apologise for this and reassure trainees that as soon as the derogations are published we will work with them to understand how it will affect each individual's position.

We recognise that many of you have been unable to attend courses due to cancellations. We would urge you to continue to try and attend these for your professional development. Much of the contents of BSS can be achieved with your trainers in your surgical exposure and it may be that the skills can be achieved and WBAs sourced during the practical skills sessions which will commence in the New Year. I would recommend that you try to read the ATLS manual. You will need to do this prior to attending the shortened two day course, so this will be of value when you are able to attend. This will also give you the knowledge base to help with exam preparation and in the management of trauma patients. Again, some of the practical skills may be developed in your work and in the teaching sessions, but certification will necessitate course attendance. Whilst CCrISP is not mandatory, some ST3 selection processes do recommend it. The same applies here as for ATLS, other than to say that there is a series of teaching sessions on the YouTube channel, produced during the first wave, which covers the topics of CCrISP. Failure to have completed ATLS and BSS during Core Training may impact upon your ability to apply for ST3, but will not affect your ARCP outcome.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for your ongoing training and assure you we do recognise the difficulties of training during this time. Please do stay safe and liaise closely with your supervisors, College Tutors and School, if we can be of any further assistance.

All the best

Andrew Williams

Michael Ho

Adam Barlow