

LONDON GENERAL SURGICAL SKILLS PROGRAMME NEWS

Issue 14

April 2017

Our surgical simulators keep evolving!

Surgical simulators tailored to skills objectives

Our Programme benefits from an in-house model designer who designs, and monitors the use and feedback of our simulators. It is especially challenging to provide high fidelity simulators when using synthetic materials. The process requires prolonged planning and design with regular feedback from trainers and trainees.

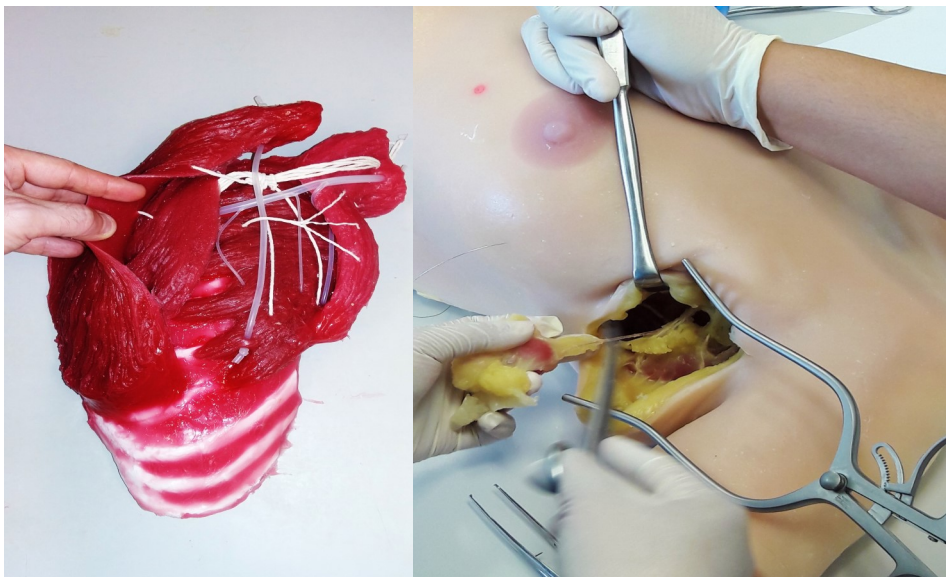
This year, a great number of our models received a make-over with significant changes made to the breast simulator in order to incorporate more realistic components. The axillary part now includes a more detailed anatomy of axilla, including demonstration of vascular pedicles, long thoracic nerve, and system / plan for approaching level I, II, III dissection.

Significant changes have been made to the laparoscopic appendicectomy model, which was judged to show low fidelity in terms of tissue handling. The tissue has been made easier to handle and the retrocecal component was reviewed.

We welcome feedback from both trainees and trainers, therefore, if you have any comments or suggestions, we would be delighted to hear from you.

“Excellent! No suggestions. Great teaching style, plenty of time to practice and good tailored feedback! Thank you!”

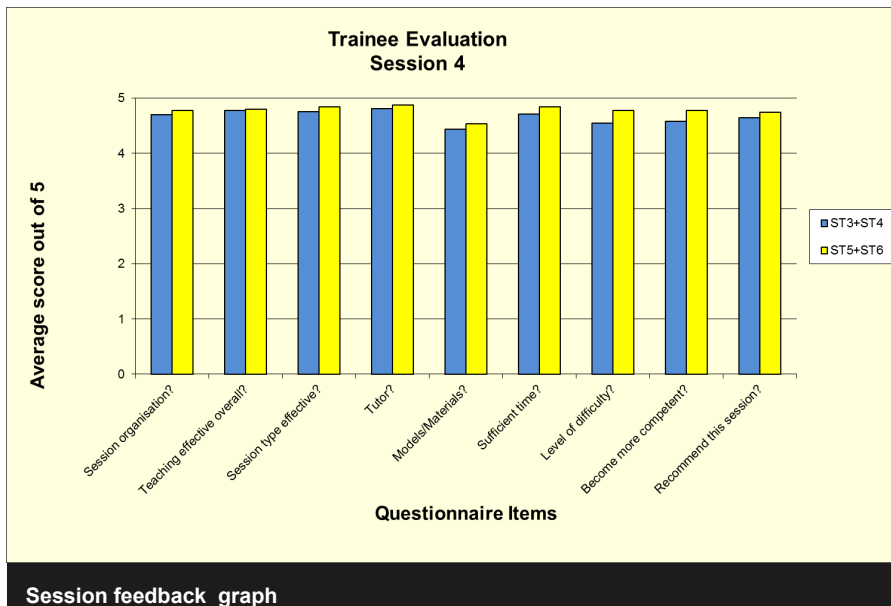
ST3 Trainee



Axillary Clearance Simulator

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Trainee session feedback

All trainees are kindly asked to complete a session feedback form after each session. We are grateful to all our trainees as they all take the time to complete the form and feed back to us with comments and suggestions.

Daily session feedback remains consistently positive, overall. Any comments and suggestions for improvement are carefully considered by the Skills Team and the governance board, and relevant changes are implemented. We seem to observe that trainees find PowerPoint presentation and trainer videos useful and for this reason we encourage all our trainers to prepare a short presentation along with some case studies, where possible.

Trainee feedback

“Extremely useful at this stage of training. Probably useful to repeat during the same year. Maybe be better to have one trainee at each box to have more time practising and organise group into two different sessions.” **ST3 trainee**

“Not sure how useful this session is, as in practice, very unlikely to carry out coloanal anastomosis. However, it is useful for practicing anastomoses in confined spaces.” **ST6 trainee**

Targeted interventions

Within the scope of the Programme, in 2016 we offered for the first time one-to-one sessions for trainees who experience challenges in their technical skills. The sessions were undertaken by Professor George Hanna and involved a preliminary discussion, identification of challenges, and a series of targeted skills sessions. The sessions were closely monitored and further feedback was provided, when needed.

Return to practice

The Programme offers trainees who are Out of Programme (OOP), such as those who were on maternity/paternity leave, research study leave, or sick leave the opportunity to undergo “refresher” workshops on anastomotic and laparoscopic skills. These workshops are offered immediately before their return to clinical practice after a prolonged absence from the OT. This initiative was implemented in 2015, and the workshops were delivered at least twice a year and were mostly undertaken by Professor George Hanna. Trainees who attended the workshops were especially satisfied and felt that it was a necessary addition to the Programme.



Open anastomotic skills

April Changes

The Skills Team are aware that job moves in April may affect the weekday on which ST3 and ST4 trainees are most easily available for teaching. Trainees are reminded that it is usually possible to swap to a group on a more convenient day. Trainees also need to update the Skills Team on the name and email.

SKILLS

ASSESSMENT

Please note that as of last year, our Annual surgical Skills Assessment will be held in **September** during your allocated day.

Contact d.gilpin@imperial.ac.uk to book a morning or afternoon session. If you have any concerns, please contact s.mavroveli@imperial.ac.uk

RETURN TO PRACTICE

The next Return to Practice workshop will be held on the 11th of July 2017 from 9.00 am to 13.00 pm. Please contact s.mavroveli@imperial.ac.uk to book a place, as we offer a very small number of places.

Please visit us on twitter

[@Imperial_LGSSP](https://twitter.com/Imperial_LGSSP)



Laparoscopic right hemicolectomy simulator

Laparoscopic Right Hemicolectomy

Over the last two years, we have developed a laparoscopic right hemicolectomy simulator in order to meet the training needs of Senior Colorectal Trainees.

The development of the simulator was particularly challenging in order to achieve anatomical and tissue handling realism. The first prototype was piloted in September 2015. Trainees and consultant trainers practised the procedure on the simulator and provided the Skills Team with useful feedback comments. By and large, the comments were particularly positive and they were used for further amendments.

Currently, further changes are being made in order to improve the anatomical fidelity of the simulator as well as tissue handling, and a second prototype will be trialled in June.

Endovascular Workshops

All-day vascular workshops are a great success and are delivered annually. A successful EVAR day was delivered in December and Endovenous workshops are scheduled for July. The Vascular team incorporate new additions and component to the workshops in order to maximise the educational benefit. A written MCQ test was implemented as part of the workshops.

Workstations were supplied by GORE, TERARECON, COOK MEDICAL, MEDTRONIC, ABBOTT, CORDIS, and ENDOLOGIX. We are grateful for the industry's support, and the efforts of the Vascular team.



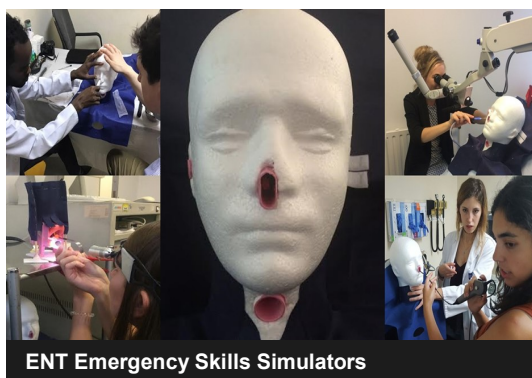
EVAR workshop

New Consultant Assessors

Experienced consultants who are interested in becoming skills assessors for the General Surgical Skills Programme, please contact Dr. Mavroveli s.mavroveli@imperial.ac.uk. Trailing material will be provided.

ENT Simulation Training

Doctors rotating through ENT placements will routinely manage acute potentially life-threatening conditions. In order to safely perform this role, trainees require both specialist knowledge and practical skills. There are long standing concerns that doctors commencing ENT rotations are not prepared, lacking the required knowledge and skills, partly due to insufficient undergraduate exposure. Inspired by the simulation training developed for ENT higher surgical trainees at Imperial, an induction programme aimed at doctors new to ENT with a focus on both theoretical and practical skills was developed. Attendees were given lectures covering emergency ENT conditions and were taught practical skills on simulators. Skills taught included: epistaxis management, flexible nasendoscopy, microsuction, foreign body removal and laryngeal stoma / tracheostomy management. Quinsy diagnosis and drainage was taught on a separate simulator. This initiative, which started at Imperial, has now spread to multiple centres across three countries.



ENT Emergency Skills Simulators

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Visit us on the web at
www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/LDSkillsProgramme

Twitter: [@Imperial_LGSSP](https://twitter.com/Imperial_LGSSP)

London General Surgical Skills Programme — Pursuing Excellence

General Surgery Consultant Trainers from Oct 2016 - April 2017

Prof. Timothy Allen-Mersh (x2)	Mr Jorg de Bruin (x2)	Mr Nicholas Law	Mr Madhava Pai	Mr Alexander von Roon (x2)
Miss Sara Badvie	Mr Jean Deguara (x2)	Miss Jackie Lewis	Mr Bijendra Patel	Mr Edward Westcott
Mr Neal Banga	Mr Husam Ebied (x2)	Mr John Lynn (x2)	Mr Christopher Peters	Mr Richard Wilson (x2)
Mr Kasim Behranwala (x2)	Mr Alec Engledow (x2)	Mr Michael Machesney	Mr Antony Pittathankal	
Mr Aman Bhargava	Mr Manjit Gohel (x2)	Mr Nicholas Marshall (x3)	Mr Kamran Qurashi	ENT consultants
Mr Colin Bicknell (x2)	Mr Mark Gudgeon	Mr Alberto Martinez-Isla	Mr Jonathan Refson	Prof. Neil Tolley
Mr Riccardo Bonomi	Mr Ayman Hamade	Mr Nagy Matar	Ms Celia Riga (x2)	Mr Matt Rollin
Mr Ashley Brown (x5)	Mr Hisham Hamed	Mr Pawan Mathur	Ms Nung Rudarakanchana (x2)	Mr Alam Hannan
Mr Emin Carapeti	Mr Colin Hart (x2)	Mr Andrew May (x3)	Miss Becky Sandford (x2)	Miss Helen Caulfield
Ms Ritchie Chalmers	Mr Paul Herbert	Miss Orla McCormack	Mr Hemant Sheth (x3)	Mr Ali Taghi
Mr Patrick Chong (x2)	Mr Robert Hutchins	Mr Krishna Moorthy (x2)	Miss Kaji Sritharan	Mr Elliot Benjamin
Professor Susan Clark	Mr Shashi Irukulla (x2)	Mr Dipankar Mukherjee (x2)	Dr Victoria Stewart	
Mr Jeremy Crane	Mr Mark Kelly	Mr Hasan Mukhtar (x2)	Dr Jeremy Taylor (x2)	With thanks to:
Mr James Crinnion	Mr Mansoor Khan (x2)	Mr Alistair Myers	Mr Henry Tilney	Tom Jacques, John Hardman,
Mr Neville Dastur (x2)	Mr Goldie Khera	Prof. John Nicholls (x2)	Mr Roberto Valente	Issa Beegun, Boeke Van
Mr Andrew Davies	Mr Jonathan Knowles	Mr Jonathon Olsburgh		Beugen, Nicola Hawkins,
	Mr Rajesh Kumar			Deyna Chatzimichalaki

Governance Board

Programme Director

- **Professor George Hanna**, Professor of Surgical Sciences, Imperial College London

Management Board

- **Professor Nigel Standfield**, Head of Postgraduate School of Surgery, London Deanery

- **Ms Avril Chang**, Training Programme Directors, South East London

- **Mr. Nebil Behar**, Training Programme Director, North West London

- **Mr. Chetan Bhan/Ms Jennifer Hu** Training Programme Directors, North East/Central London

- **Ms Stella Vig/Mr Robert Hagger** Training Programme Directors, South West London

- **Mr. Keith Jones**, Vascular Training Programme Director

- **Members of the Skills Team.**