

Index Procedures – Vascular Surgery

Vascular Surgery requires technical skills to be undertaken across a wide range of operative procedures as described in the syllabus. These are generally groups of procedures which are common and/or are seen as representing important areas of technical expertise. The assessment of a trainee's ability to carry out this full range of procedures is covered by the supervision level decisions made when assessing the CiPs. These assess not only the necessary technical skills but the totality of capabilities required to carry them out. Vascular Surgery also has a list of index procedures, which are felt to be of significant importance for patient safety and to demonstrate a safe breadth of practice.

The index procedures will be assessed individually by means of the PBA which will both provide formative feedback to the trainee and feed into the summative assessment of the AES and ARCP. The competency in these procedures should be developed through both Phase 2 and 3 of training.

By certification (the end of phase 3) there should be documented evidence of performance at the level of a day-one consultant for the index procedures to competence level 4 in the PBA.

PBA Level 4:

- a: Procedure performed fluently without guidance or intervention
- b: As 4a and was able to anticipate, avoid and/or deal with common problems/complications (see PBA form for the full list of levels).

The PBA numbers are an indicative guide for both trainees and trainers as to the case numbers that give an indication of competence as trainees would not normally be expected to have achieved sufficient experience to be able to manage the range of pathology they encounter unless these numbers were met. It is recognised that competence could be achieved with fewer cases, if supported by evidence from other assessments. Meeting the numbers does not, in itself, imply competence.

The index procedures and indicative numbers are:

Aortic aneurysm

- Open Aortic Procedures – 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

(To include Open repair of Elective AAA at level 4 and Ruptured AAA at level 3)

- Collaborative Endovascular Aortic Procedures -10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

(To include Endovascular repair of Elective AAA at level 4 and Ruptured AAA at level 3)

Carotid endarterectomy – 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Common Femoral Arterial Surgery - 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Common Femoral artery exposure, endarterectomy and patch / graft anastomosis –to level 4
- Redo – Groin Surgery
- Combined Open with Endovascular Revascularisation (COWER)- to level 4 as part of Collaborative delivery

Infra Inguinal bypass surgery – 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Above Knee popliteal exposure and anastomosis
- Below knee popliteal exposure and anastomosis
- Calf vessel run exposure and anastomosis
- Pedal vessel exposure and anastomosis
- Popliteal artery exclusion bypass

Endovascular – 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Perioperative Endovascular (DSA) imaging interpretation and management
- Angioplasty / Stenting of a luminal SFA/ Iliac stenosis.
- Over the wire balloon thrombectomy cases

Emergency Vascular Surgery – 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Femoral and Brachial Embolectomy
- 4 compartment fasciotomy
- Control and repair false femoral artery aneurysm

Amputation and Debridement 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Digital amputation and or – Drainage of Diabetic Foot Sepsis at level 4
- Major amputation (Inclusive of Above/ Through and Below Knee) at level 4

Varicose vein surgery- 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Sapheno-femoral and sapheno-popliteal ligation.
- Endovenous LSV and SSV ablation
- Foam injection sclerotherapy

Vascular access – 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Primary AV fistula at wrist/upper arm
- Revision of failed AV fistula

General Surgery– 10 PBAs that show progression to competence. To include four at level 4 by at least two trainers

Inclusive of:

- Open and Close Laparotomy – at level 4
- Emergency Control (packing) of intra-abdominal haemorrhage
- Division of Adhesions
- Colonic mobilisation to allow Vascular Control