

Appendix 4: Index Procedures

Index procedures are of significant importance for patient safety and demonstrate a safe breadth of practice. The following are the skillset for an emergency safe surgeon in Paediatric Surgery.

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.

The levels shown in the table below refer to both:

the syllabus standards for technical skills (see appendix 2 for the full list of levels)

3. Can do whole but may need assistance

4. Competent to do without assistance, including complications

and

the PBA performance level (see PBA form for the full list of levels)

Level 2 a: Guidance required for most/all of the procedure (or part performed)

b: Guidance or intervention required for key steps only

Level 3 a: Procedure performed with minimal guidance or intervention (needed occasional help)

b: Procedure performed competently without guidance or intervention but lacked fluency

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

			Level	Experience	Performed, Performed under supervision, taught	
General Surgery	General Paediatric Surgery (GPS)	Circumcision	4	85	70	
		Inguinal herniotomy, Ligation PPV	4	150	75	
		Orchidopexy	4	60	40	
		Repair of epigastric hernia, repair of umbilical/supra-umbilical hernia	4	10	5	
		Laparoscopy	Pyloromyotomy (open or laparoscopic)	4	20	10
			Appendicectomy (open or laparoscopic)	4	20	15
			Diagnostic laparoscopy for abdominal pathology, undescended testis	4	26	16
	Head and Neck	Thyroglossal Cysts/branchial remnant/fistula	3	8	5	
		Central Venous access (open/percutaneous/portacath)	4	48	25	
Trauma	Trauma laparotomy; packing of abdomen simulated (cadaveric course)	4 or Simulated 4	1	1		
	Trauma Thoracotomy; Clam-shell, simulated (cadaveric course)	3 or Simulated 4	1	1		
Neonatal Surgery		Repair of oesophageal atresia/Tracheo-oesophageal Fistula	3	10	4	
		Repair of diaphragmatic hernia/eventration	4	10	6	
		Repair of abdominal wall defects (gastroschisis, exomphalos)	4	15	9	
		Surgery to correct malrotation/duodenal atresia	4	10	6	

		Surgery for small intestinal pathology (NNEC, creation and closure of ileostomy) intestinal atresia, meconium ileus,	4	20	14
		Neonatal colorectal surgery (NNEC, colonic atresia, colostomy)/anoplasty/Closure of stoma	4	20	14
		Repair of neonatal inguinal hernia	4	25	15
Urology		Exploration Acute Scrotum (Torted Hydatid; Torsion testis)	4	25	20
		Cystourethroscopy; SPC insertion; PUV resection	4	38	22
		Ureteric access STING/Stent; Nephrostomy (open/perc)	3	11	6
		Hypospadias repair	3	40	5
		Pyeloplasty (open or laparoscopic) or Nephrectomy (open or lap)	3	22	8
		Reconstructive urology: Bladder Augmentation, Mitrofanoff, ACE	3	13	4
		Surgery for impalpable UDT (open or laparoscopic)	4	10	7
		Peritoneal dialysis catheter insertion/removal	3	2	1
Gastro-intestinal		Upper GI endoscopy and biopsy; Insertion PEG/Gastrostomy	4	50	30
		Fundoplication etc	3	5	3
		Small bowel resection etc	4	10	6
		Small/large bowel stoma formation etc	4	10	6
		Laparotomy for adhesions; Intussusception etc	4	11	6
		PSARP etc	3	8	2
		Pull through for Hirschsprungs etc	3	6	2

Thoracic		Thoracic Surgery: Chest drain insertion; Pleural debridement Empyema; Lung biopsy/resection; Thoracotomy/VATS	4	10	5
Oncology		Tumour resection (Wilms, Resection Neuroblastoma; Sacroccygeal teratoma)	3	14	2
		Tumour biopsy (open/laparoscopic/thoracoscopic)	4	8	4
		Lymphnode biopsy	4	7	5
Total				1990	1300

Experience means all cases trainee scrubbed for: In the eelogbook this would include: Assisted (A), Supervised trainer scrubbed (STS) , Supervised trainer unscrubbed (STU), Performed in part by trainee (PPT), Performed (P), Taught (T), Performed with consultant colleague (PCC), Performed assisted by Trainee (PAT). It would not include observed cases. These numbers are indicative only, 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 by the time of certification.

Performed these are cases the trainee was the main surgeon. In the eelogbook this would include: Supervised trainer scrubbed (STS) , Supervised trainer unscrubbed (STU), Performed (P), Taught (T), Performed with consultant colleague (PCC) only. It excludes cases where the trainee only assisted, or assisted for part of the case. These numbers are indicative only, 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 by the time of certification.

Over-all numbers		PBA Level 4 conditions	24
		3 x level	72

	Total	Performed
Experience neonatal surgery	110	68
PBA level 4		18

Total cases

Total assisted, performed, performed under assistance, taught	Lower Quartile	1990
Total performed, performed under assistance, taught	Lower Quartile	1300

Neonatal cases

Total assisted, performed, performed under assistance, taught	110
Total performed, performed under assistance, taught	68

The range of cases is very wide in paediatric surgery, but an over-all experience is important. The table at the top is for total experience (all cases) and the lower table specifically neonatal experience. The total numbers for neonates gives an idea of how extensive the experience has been for a trainee: if a trainee has managed to have 150 neonates in total and performed 110 then if there is one area where they do not quite meet the target, compensation will be possible. If they are short of an index PBA, but only have experience of 100 neonates in total and performed only 60, their global experience will be seen as inadequate.