

Summary of changes to the Core Surgical Training curriculum

Generic and very minor changes have been made to the CST curriculum as follows:

1. Removal of reference to Improving Surgical Training Pilots which have now finished
2. Addition of paragraphs relating to Genomics, Clinical Informatics and Sustainability in section 3.5.1. This change is generic to all the surgical curricula. These areas have not been added to the syllabus in detail as their deliverability is variable across the UK. They have been included to emphasise the importance of these emerging areas in healthcare, ensuring that trainees remain adaptable and informed as surgical practice evolves. They also provide guidance on how trainees can capture their experiences in these areas. Whilst these areas are of growing importance and relevance, they are not expected to be fully evidenced by all trainees at this stage due to current disparities in training opportunities. The focus should remain on achieving the GPCs with awareness and engagement in these emerging areas encouraged where feasible.
3. The removal of reference to the MRCS(ENT) which has been removed from the Otolaryngology training pathway.
4. Removal of reference to the DO-HNS examination. Candidates who have DO-HNS Part 1 can currently complete the qualification if they sit the MRCS(ENT). However, the DO-HNS Part 1 has not been offered for a number of years. UK trainees (in ENT) now sit MRCS Part A + the MRCS(ENT) OSCE to get MRCS(ENT). As mentioned above, the MRCS(ENT) is being removed so that candidates will be required to sit the MRCS Parts A and B.
5. A clarification about technical skill level 2 that while trainees can perform a straightforward procedure fluently, they must do so with continuous oversight from a supervisor to ensure patient safety and proper skill development. This addition also helps to better differentiate this level from others, particularly level 3, where trainees begin to work more independently.
6. Two clarifications to the assessment blueprint relating to the MRCS Part B. The blueprint shows that the OCSE tests critical technical skills, this was an omission in the previous version of the curriculum. However, we have removed mapping of the OSCE to 'general' clinical skills; although the OSCE tests clinical skills, it is not at sufficient depth to be represented in the design of this blueprint.
7. Minor typographical changes.