

Appendix 4: Index Procedures / Indicative Numbers

Index procedures are of significant importance for patient safety and demonstrate a safe breadth of practice.

By certification there should be documented evidence of performance at the level of a day-one consultant in the portfolio by means of the PBA. The table below sets out the required PBA levels ranging between 2 to 4:

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

In addition, the indicative numbers of index cases help to demonstrate sufficient experience to be able to manage the range of pathology trainees encounter. 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.

Competencies in endoscopy (Colonoscopy – complex luminal including Level 2 polypectomy and Gastroscopy) are in line with current equivalent requirements for accreditation for independent practice with the Joint Advisory Group on GI Endoscopy (or recognised equivalent) ^{1,2}.

1. [Gastroenterology 2022 curriculum FINAL v1.0.pdf \(thefederation.uk\)](#)
2. [JETS certification pathways.pdf \(thejag.org.uk\)](#)

Critical Progression Point
End of phase 2
All trainees

Indicative Numbers

Summarise the number of cases (S-TS + S-TU + P + T) you have performed for each of the procedures below:

Elective General and GI Surgery+ Emergency General Surgery (Phase 2)		Number
Inguinal hernia	50	.....
Cholecystectomy	40	.....
Segmental colectomy	15	.....
Emergency laparotomy	45	.....
Appendicectomy	60	.....

Index procedures operative competency

Indicate the number of PBAs (to the level shown) you have for each of the procedures listed.

An indicative three or more PBAs by different assessors for each of the procedures.

Elective General and GI Surgery+ Emergency General Surgery (Phase 2)		Number
Hernia repair – all types	Level 4	.....
Cholecystectomy (both laparoscopic and/or open)	Level 3	.....
Segmental colectomy	Level 3	.....

Critical Progression Point
End of phase 3
Certification

Indicative Numbers

Summarise the number of cases (S-TS + S-TU + P + T) you have performed in your two phase 3 special interest modules (the indicative numbers for certification are shown).

Emergency General Surgery	Phase 3 ☐	Number
Emergency laparotomy	100	.....
Appendicectomy	80	.....
Cholecystectomy*	50	.....
Segmental colectomy*	20	.....

*May include elective case numbers

Breast	Phase 3 ☐	
Module 2A		
Breast cancer conservation	100	.....
Mastectomy	70	.....
inc skin sparing	40	.....

Axillary surgery inc ANC, SNB	100	.....
Reduction mammoplasty techniques	40	.....

Module 2B

Implant reconstruction	30	.....
Local flaps	15	.....

Colorectal Phase 3 ☐

Anterior resection	30	.....
Fistula surgery	20	.....
Segmental colectomy	50	 (some
colonic resections should be minimally invasive surgery)		
Haemorrhoidectomy	15	.....
Colonoscopy	JAG certification or equivalent evidence of competence	.....

Oesophagogastric Phase 3 ☐

Major OG procedures	35	.....
(includes anti-reflux, obesity and OG cancer resection)		
(some trainees will focus primarily on benign and others on resectional procedures)		
(at least 20 in chosen sub-specialty and remaining 15 of alternative sub-specialty)		
Cholecystectomy	110	.....
Gastroscopy	JAG certification or equivalent evidence of competence	.....

Hepatopancreaticobiliary Phase 3 ☐ Number

Major HPB procedures	35	.....
(at least 35 in total to include liver resection (10), pancreatectomy (10) or other major HPB procedure (10))		
Cholecystectomy	110	.....

Gastrointestinal and GSoC Phase 3 ☐

Segmental Colectomy	50	.....
Cholecystectomy	110	.....
Paediatric herniotomy	20	.....
Gastroscopy or Colonoscopy	JAG certification or equivalent evidence of competence	.....
(depending on chosen sub-specialty)		

Transplant		Phase 3 ☐	
Kidney Transplant and Dialysis Module			
Kidney transplant	40		.....
Benchwork preparation for kidney transplant	40		.....
Insertion of PD catheter	20		.....
Creation of AV fistula	50		.....
Pancreas Transplant and Organ Retrieval Module			
Pancreas transplant	10		.....
Benchwork preparation for pancreas transplant	10		.....
Kidney implant part of SPK	10		.....
Multi-organ retrieval	30		.....
Emergency laparotomy (excl retrievals)	80		.....
Liver Transplant and Organ Retrieval Module			
Liver transplant	30		.....
Benchwork preparation for liver transplant	30		.....
Multi-organ retrieval	30		.....
Emergency laparotomy (excl retrievals)	80		.....
Endocrine		Phase 3 ☐	
Thyroidectomy	50		.....
Re-operative thyroid surgery	5		.....
Parathyroidectomy	30		.....
Adrenalectomy	**		.....
Trauma		Phase 3 ☐	Number
Trauma laparotomy	**		.....
Paediatric trauma laparotomy	**		.....
Trauma thoracotomy	**		.....
Surgical airway management	**		.....

There are, at present (January 2025), insufficient data to give indicative numbers for the procedures marked as **. Future versions of this form will include this.

Index procedures operative competency

Indicate the number of PBAs (to the level shown) you have for each of the procedures listed in each of your phase 3 special interest modules

An indicative three or more PBAs to be performed by different assessors for each of the procedures in the phase 3 modules that you have undertaken.

Emergency General Surgery (Phase 3 module)

Emergency laparotomy	Level 4	.....
Cholecystectomy (laparoscopic and/or open)	Level 4	.....
Hartmann's procedure	Level 4	.....
Segmental colectomy	Level 4	.....
Appendicectomy	Level 4	.....

Breast Phase 3 ☐

Module 2A

Image guided breast excision	Level 4	.....
Mastectomy	Level 4	.....
Sentinel lymph node biopsy	Level 4	.....
Axillary clearance	Level 4	.....
Duct and nipple surgery	Level 4	.....

Module 2B

Implant reconstruction	Level 4	.....
Autologous flaps	Level 2	.....
Mammoplasty: augmentation and reduction	Level 3	.....

Colorectal Phase 3 ☐

Anterior resection (high)	Level 4	.....
Segmental colectomy	Level 4	.....
Fistula surgery	Level 4	.....
Surgical treatment of haemorrhoids	Level 4	.....

Oesophagogastric Phase 3 ☐

Cholecystectomy	Level 4	.....
Anti-reflux surgery (laparoscopic and/or open) and/or	Level 4	.....
Oesophagectomy	Level 3	.....
Gastrectomy and/or	Level 3	.....
Bariatric surgery – gastric bypass (Roux-en-Y or One Anastomosis)	Level 4	

Bariatric surgery – sleeve gastrectomy	Level 4	
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Hepatopancreaticobiliary	Phase 3	☐
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Liver resection	Level 3	
Pancreatic resection	Level 3	
Cholecystectomy	Level 4	

Gastrointestinal and GSoC	Phase 3	☐
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Segmental colectomy	Level 4	
Cholecystectomy	Level 4	
Paediatric herniotomy	Level 4	

Transplant	Phase 3	☐
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Kidney Transplant and Dialysis Module

Kidney transplant	Level 4	
Insertion of PD catheter	Level 4	
Creation of AV fistula	Level 4	.....
Live donor nephrectomy	Level 2	.....
DBD multi-organ retrieval	Level 2	.....

Pancreas Transplant and Organ Retrieval Module

DBD multi-organ retrieval	Level 4	.....
Pancreatic transplant bench preparation	Level 3	.....
Pancreas transplant recipient operation	Level 2	.....
Kidney transplant (part of SPK)	Level 4	.....

Liver Transplant and Organ Retrieval Module

DBD multi-organ retrieval	Level 4	.....
Liver transplant bench preparation	Level 3	
Liver transplant recipient operation	Level 2	

Endocrine	Phase 3	☐
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Adrenal surgery	Level 3	
Thyroidectomy	Level 4	
Parathyroidectomy	Level 4	

Trauma	Phase 3	☐
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Trauma laparotomy	Level 4	
Paediatric trauma laparotomy	Level 4	

Trauma thoracotomy	Level 4	
Surgical airway management	Level 4	.....