

# ALS Syllabus

## Colorectal Surgery

This core syllabus is intended to outline the requirements for surgical trainees intending to undertake laparoscopic surgery as part of their specialist training. The following three grades of training will be used in the document to identify at which stage of training the core knowledge or specialist operative skills should be acquired.

### BST

Knowledge and technique expected of a basic surgical trainee at the MRCS examination

### HST

In addition to the knowledge and technique expected of a basic surgical trainee at the MRCS examination - the additional knowledge and technique expected of a higher surgical trainee with a specialty interest other than Colorectal Surgery at the ICB examination and on award of the CCST in General Surgery

### SPECIALIST

In addition to the knowledge and technique expected of both a basic surgical trainee at the MRCS examination and expected of a higher surgical trainee with a specialty interest other than Colorectal Surgery at the ICB examination - the additional knowledge and technique, expected of a higher surgical trainee with a declared specialisation in Colorectal Surgery at the ICB examination and on appointment as a Consultant with an interest in Colorectal Surgery.

GOAL: Following the completion of appropriate training in colon and rectal surgery and laparoscopic techniques, trainees will be knowledgeable in the application of laparoscopic procedures to colon and rectal surgery.

#### I. General Considerations.

A. Trainees will be able to do the following:

1. Discuss the basic principles of laparoscopic surgery including an understanding of the physiological effects of pneumoperitoneum. BST
2. Discuss the potential complications which may be associated with laparoscopic surgery. BST

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|---|------|
| 3. List and discuss the proposed advantages and disadvantages of laparoscopic surgery in general.   | HST  |
| 4. List and discuss the proposed advantages and disadvantages of laparoscopic colon and rectal surgery.                                       | SPEC |
| 5. Discuss the equipment and its set up, patient positioning, and instrumentation for the performance of a laparoscopic colorectal procedure. | SPEC |
| 6. Discuss the physiologic impact of laparoscopic surgery as it relates to cardiovascular, respiratory and immunologic function.              | SPEC |

II. Indications and Contraindications

A. Trainees will be able to do the following:

1. Discuss the indications and contraindications for laparoscopic management of the following categories of colon and rectal disease:

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|-------------|------|
| • Benign    | SPEC |
| • Malignant | SPEC |

III. Complications

A. Trainees will be able to do the following:

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| 1. Discuss the prevention, identification, and management of general complications occurring during laparoscopic surgery.  | BST  |
| 2. Discuss the prevention, identification and management of complications occurring during laparoscopic surgery in relation to specific conditions and procedures. | SPEC |

IV. Procedures

A. Trainees will be able to do the following:

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|---|------|
| 1. Discuss the equipment setup, patient positioning, port-site placement, instrumentation, and conduct of the operation for the following procedures: |      |
| • Right hemicolectomy/ileocolic resection   | SPEC |
| • Segmental colectomy   | SPEC |
| • Left hemicolectomy/sigmoid resection  | SPEC |
| • Subtotal colectomy  | SPEC |
| • Anterior/low anterior resection   | SPEC |

- Abdominoperineal resection SPEC
  - Rectopexy SPEC
  - Para-stomal hernia repair SPEC
  - Incisional hernia repair HST
  - Stoma creation and closure HST
  - Appendicectomy HST
  - Diagnostic laparoscopy with or without biopsy, liver biopsy and lysis of adhesions HST
2. Discuss the clinical situations and indications for conversion from laparoscopic to open procedures. HST

## V. Special Considerations

A. Trainees will be able to do the following:

1. Discuss the preoperative and intraoperative methods of identifying the relevant lesion. SPEC
2. Discuss the role of ureteric stents for the identification of the ureters during laparoscopic surgery. SPEC
3. Discuss the role for laparoscopic liver ultrasonography. SPEC
4. Discuss alternative methods of laparoscopy (ie, gasless laparoscopy and hand-assisted laparoscopy). SPEC
5. Discuss methods of possible prevention of port-site recurrences during laparoscopic surgery for cancer. SPEC