



## C-Trg 1

# Guidelines for training in advanced endoscopic surgery and endometrial ablation

*Consensus statement of the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) and the Australian Gynaecological Endoscopy Society (AGES).*

### General Considerations

- 1 RANZCOG accepts that minimal access surgery has become an appropriate method of surgical intervention in an increasing number of medical conditions.
- 2 Fellows of RANZCOG undertaking surgery of this nature have a responsibility to their patients to achieve and maintain a satisfactory standard of surgical training, such that case selection and performance of the surgery is both appropriate and safe.
- 3 While it is anticipated that during the course of training all Fellows should gain a minimum amount of endoscopic experience, the nature of endoscopic surgery is such that not all Fellows will be competent to perform all procedures. More advanced procedures (such as total laparoscopic hysterectomy, pelvic fascial repair or excision of level IV-V endometriosis) require further training and supervision prior to these procedures being performed by the Fellow unsupervised. The acquisition of this further training may occur in a number of ways including recognised Fellow training posts in endoscopic surgery; ongoing surgical skills acquisition courses run by the college or special interest groups and ongoing regular operating with a Fellow with more senior endoscopic skills, who provides traditional one to one training.
- 4 RANZCOG accepts that the according of hospital operating privileges to any surgeon is the responsibility of the relevant hospital and that other bodies have recommended various systems of rating the complexity of laparoscopic surgery in particular, which may be useful to these committees. It is expected that a Fellow of RANZCOG would be included on any hospital committee to which the Fellow would be applying for privileges.
- 5 RANZCOG encourages Fellows to be proactive in the acquisition of new skills and actively promotes ethical research and evaluation of any new procedure prior to its widespread usage. It is also expected that Fellows adhere to the principles of informed consent and explain the potential risks and benefits of any procedure, indicating if the procedure may be viewed as experimental or as yet unproven. It would be expected that any Fellow involved in the development of new procedures would play an active role to ensure safety and outcome data was collected and periodically reviewed.
- 6 Fellows should familiarize themselves with College Statement C-Trg 2: Guidelines for performing advanced operative laparoscopy.

## **Patient Resources**

Australian Gynaecological Endoscopy Society (AGES). <http://www.ages.com.au>

## **Links to other related College Statements**

C-Trg 2: Guidelines for performing advanced operative laparoscopy.

### **Disclaimer**

This College Statement is intended to provide general advice to Practitioners. The statement should never be relied on as a substitute for proper assessment with respect to the particular circumstances of each case and the needs of each patient.

The statement has been prepared having regard to general circumstances. It is the responsibility of each Practitioner to have regard to the particular circumstances of each case, and the application of this statement in each case. In particular, clinical management must always be responsive to the needs of the individual patient and the particular circumstances of each case.

This College statement has been prepared having regard to the information available at the time of its preparation, and each Practitioner must have regard to relevant information, research or material which may have been published or become available subsequently.

Whilst the College endeavours to ensure that College statements are accurate and current at the time of their preparation, it takes no responsibility for matters arising from changed circumstances or information or material that may have become available after the date of the statements.