

# CONJOINT COMMITTEE FOR RECOGNITION OF TRAINING IN GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY

## ENTRY LEVELS

### 1 Australian Specialist Training Program

The Conjoint Committee for the Recognition of Training in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (CCRTGE) recognises the training of gastrointestinal endoscopists who have completed their specialist training in Australia.

Facilities for training in endoscopy should be available in major hospitals, with exposure to endoscopic procedures being available to all gastroenterology and general surgery trainees.

Endoscopy training is assessed by the CCRTGE usually in the context of the Specialist Training Program of either the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) or the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS). Full recognition is dependent on the completion of training, experience and supervision pursuant to those training programs.

Trainees must register with the CCRTGE and pay the relevant fees at the beginning of their endoscopy training. Registration allows access to online logbooks where procedures are recorded prospectively. Procedures performed prior to registering may not be counted towards the requirements for certification. Training must be completed within five years of registration.

Once the requirements have been fulfilled, trainees may apply for certification in their final year of specialist training. However, certification of endoscopy training will not be given until proof of the completion of Specialist Training has been provided.

### 2 Recognition of Training undertaken in an Overseas Facility

Registrants are expected to undertake the majority of their training in Australia. Should they elect to undertake part of their training overseas, the CCRTGE will accept logbooks recorded during this period provided a number of criteria are met prior to commencing overseas training.

- The facility must be approved by the CCRTGE.
- The nominated supervisor must be regarded by the CCRTGE as a specialist in the area of training.
- The registrant must provide confirmation in writing from the overseas training institution of the arrangements agreed, with as much detail as possible. At a minimum, details of the facility in which the training will be undertaken and details of the supervisor's qualifications for the procedure being supervised. An expected number of procedures and case complexity would be useful.

#### **Please Note**

The trainee must request this approval from the CCRTGE **in writing** prior to the intended overseas posting commencing.

Applications should be received by the CCRTGE prior to 15 March for applications to be discussed at the April meeting and prior to 15 October for applications to be discussed at the November meeting.

The Conjoint Committee will consider the details of the training and inform the registrant of the suitability of the arrangements

The applicant will be expected to submit a log of locally supervised cases following their return. In general, a minimum of 50 cases with a mix of therapeutic procedures would be required.

All regulations that are set out in the Information for Registrants and on the website continue to apply. Including the submission of a cleaning sheet and payment of relevant fees.

### **3 Recognition of Prior Training & Ongoing GI Endoscopy Experience**

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Have at least five (5) years Post Fellowship proof of active practice data including numbers undertaken per year;
- Have not previously applied to the CCRTGE for certification;

To seek certification of prior experience the applicant must;

- Complete the combined registration and application form;
- Pay the required fee for each procedure for which they are seeking certification;
- Provide supporting evidence of prior endoscopy training and experience including any available material and logbooks;
- Provide a reference from someone familiar with their original training (e.g. a supervisor);
- Provide an original written reference from two CCRTGE recognised proceduralists (must be recognised in the procedure being applied for) familiar with their current practice;
- It is required that a minimum of **15** instruments be cleaned under the supervision of an experienced endoscopy nurse. See current edition of, "Infection Control in Endoscopy" for guidelines: available to download from: <http://www.conjoint.org.au>.
- Provide any other original documentation or evidence to support their application; and
- The applicant must submit a log from their current practice of a minimum of fifty (50) prospective cases for each procedure applied for.

#### **4 Recognition of Prior Training (Overseas Trained Specialists)**

Consideration under this clause is only available to applicants who have previously completed supervised endoscopic training in a recognised training institution overseas.

To be eligible to register with the Conjoint Committee, applicants must:

- Be endorsed by the Australian Medical Council to practice at specialist level or under oversight (supervision by a Specialist Medical College) in Australia;
- Have been eligible to practice at the level of consultant/specialist in gastrointestinal endoscopy prior to transferring to Australia and
- Applicants must have completed oversight (supervision by a Specialist Medical College) prior to CCRTGE certification being granted.

Evidence of this must be provided at the time of registration.

Applicants must submit:

- Submit a completed combined registration and application form;
- Pay the required fee for each procedure for which they are seeking certification
- Provide details of the initial training institution including logbooks and supervisors reports;
- Provide a written reference from a training supervisor familiar with prior training and practice for each procedure applied for;
- Submit completed logbooks from current practice including a minimum of fifty (50) prospective consecutive cases for each procedure type;
- Submit a referee's report from a CCRTGE recognised supervisor, familiar with the applicant's current practice who has personally supervised a minimum of at least twenty five (25) of the required scopes; and
- Submit a completed endoscope cleaning and disinfection form.