

## Certification Guidelines for Cardiothoracic Surgery

### All trainees seeking certification in Cardiothoracic Surgery must:

- a) be fully registered with the GMC and have a licence to practise.
- b) have undertaken 6 years of higher surgical training in a UK or Ireland training programme<sup>1</sup>.
- c) have successfully passed the Intercollegiate Specialty Board examination.
- d) have been awarded an outcome 6 at a final ARCP (gained all required competencies).

In addition, trainees should be able to satisfy the following specialty specific guidelines:

|   | <b>Guidelines for Cardiothoracic Surgery</b>  |
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| <b>Clinical experience</b> - evidence of the breadth of clinical experience defined in the specialty syllabus   | Trainees should have had exposure to both adult cardiac and thoracic surgery. Trainees must be able to demonstrate that they are keeping their knowledge and skills up-to-date. |
| <b>Operative experience</b> - consolidated logbook evidence of the breadth of operative experience defined in the specialty syllabus                      | There are no specific numeric requirements for the number of operations performed. Candidates should demonstrate broad exposure to operative cardiothoracic surgery.            |
| <b>Operative competence</b> - evidence of competence in indicative operative procedures to level 3 or 4 (evidenced by PBAs defined by the specialty)      | Trainees should demonstrate competence across a broad range of cardiothoracic procedures as evidenced by completed PBAs.  |
| <b>Research</b> - evidence of an understanding of, and participation in, research as defined by the specialty   | Trainees should provide evidence of study of research methodology, possess a higher degree or have published a paper in a peer-reviewed journal.                                |
| <b>Quality Improvement</b> - evidence of an understanding of, and participation in, audit or service improvement as defined by the specialty              | Trainees should have evidence of an audit completed within the two years prior to certification.  |
| <b>Medical Education and training</b> - evidence of an understanding of, and participation in, medical education and training as defined by the specialty | Trainees should have completed courses in training and education by the time they apply for certification.  |
| <b>Management and leadership</b> - evidence of an understanding of management structures and challenges of the NHS in the training jurisdiction           | Trainees should have completed courses in NHS management by the time they apply for certification.  |

<sup>1</sup> This will include out of programme training

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| <b>Additional courses / qualifications</b> - evidence of having attended specific courses/gained specific qualifications as defined by the specialty | There are no specific additional courses/qualifications required for certification in cardiothoracic surgery. |
| <b>Educational conferences</b> - evidence of having attended appropriate educational conferences and meetings as defined by the specialty            | Trainees should have attended a major national or international meeting in each year of training.             |