

Introduction from **Mark Coleman - National Clinical Lead**

The National Training Programme has had a busy and productive period of activity over the last 12 months. Our focus at this stage of the programme has been to ensure that our trainees head towards sign off as their training completes. Many of our training centres are currently at capacity with the volume of training required to be delivered at this stage. However, we have still accepted some new trainee registrations particularly in the North West where there has been a strong uptake since the centre commenced training in early 2010. This is now our largest training centre with 21 registered trainees.



We have 1,200 Global Assessment Score (GAS) forms recorded on line through the Lapco web site, which represents 100% increase on activity since this time last year. There are 133 registered trainees currently in training, with 57 NTP Trainers across the country delivering training.

We have supported the delivery of Immersion Courses, and Cadaveric Courses for our trainees, along with NTP live theatre educational masterclass days. We have placed a greater emphasis on training delivery, and all GAS forms have a dedicated section for trainer assessment. In conjunction with this, we have developed our curriculum for the Lapco TT (Train the Trainer) course, and the Faculty have now run four two day courses since our pilot course in March 2010.

Over the next 12 months, I anticipate some strong developments with the sign off numbers of trainees successfully completing the programme. The volume of trainees going through the sign off assessment is now gaining momentum, which is managed by the Education Team at Imperial College. I take this opportunity to thank all those involved with the NTP for their commitment to the NTP, and in particular our trainers who deliver high quality training throughout the country to accommodate the requirements of our trainees.

Mark Coleman, MD FRCS

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Lapco TT

There have been major developments with the Lapco TT (Train the Trainer) Course since the pilot was run in March 2010. With the input of the TCT Lead Faculty, we have developed our own curriculum, the team have run 3 courses to date in Portsmouth, St Marks, Nottingham, with 2 further courses scheduled in Bradford, and Colchester later on this year. The course was designed to ensure that a consistently high level of training is delivered across the programme, and all NTP trainers have the opportunity to attend. To date, 25 out of our 57 trainers have been involved as Faculty or have attended as course delegates. The course provides both dry skills training with role play, along with live theatre training,

incorporating key aspects of training delivery including set up, structure, reflection, and take home messages for trainees and trainers from sessions. The next course in Bradford will be led solely by the NTP Faculty who have developed their course delivery skills to provide a progressive, interactive and well structured 2 day course.



NTP Trainer Tom Cecil in theatre at Lapco TT

NTP Education Day Colorectal Masterclass

Including 2 live link theatre procedures.
Suitable for Consultants, SpR's, Junior Doctors, Theatre Staff
VIMAS Centre,
St Marys Hospital, Portsmouth
Thursday 16th June 2011
Go to www.lapco.nhs.uk



Featured articles

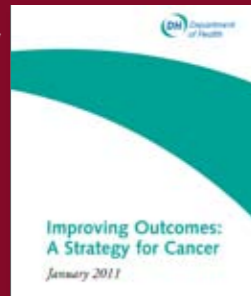
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NTP Trainers John Griffith, David Watson and Tony Dixon 'Role Play' at Lapco TT

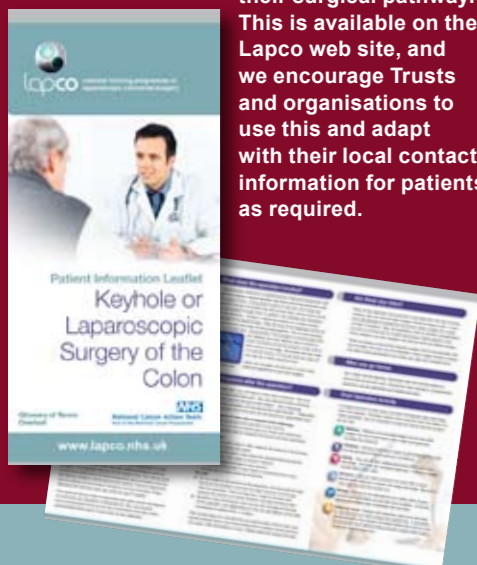
Improving Outcomes: A Strategy for Cancer January 2011

The Department Health published their updated strategy which states as the aim 'to deliver health outcomes that are among the best in the world'. There are eight challenges for Improving Outcomes that are identified including '6. Improving Outcomes for Cancer Patients: better treatment'. Section 6.4 is entitled 'Promoting the update of the latest surgical techniques' this specifically refers to the establishment and success of LAPCO to accelerate the implementation of laparoscopic colorectal surgery.



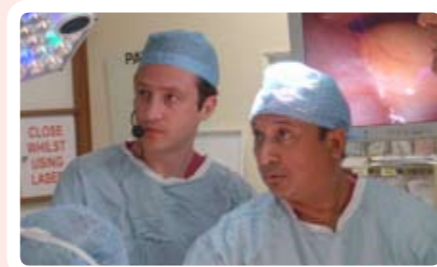
Patient Information Leaflet

With the requirement for patient choice to be offered a 'Patient Information Leaflet' was produced by the NTP to provide a user friendly document to answer many of the questions associated with laparoscopic surgery. This includes information on the lead up to the surgery, pre-operative preparation, recovery, and post-operative detail to give patients a step by step guide to their surgical pathway. This is available on the Lapco web site, and we encourage Trusts and organisations to use this and adapt with their local contact information for patients as required.



Programme Update

At this stage in the programme, we now have a number of trainees who have completed and been 'signed off' the programme. We have 133 trainees who are still in training, with training plans in place for these trainees to ensure that they make the progress required over the next 12 months to head towards sign off. The Coordination Office ensures that training centres manage their trainees to schedule sessions proactively. We have identified where additional trainers are required to assist with the geographical requirements of delivery. Our most recent NTP trainer appointments include Adam Widdison (South West), Richard Slater (Bradford), Greg Wynn (Colchester) and Paul Hainsworth (Newcastle).



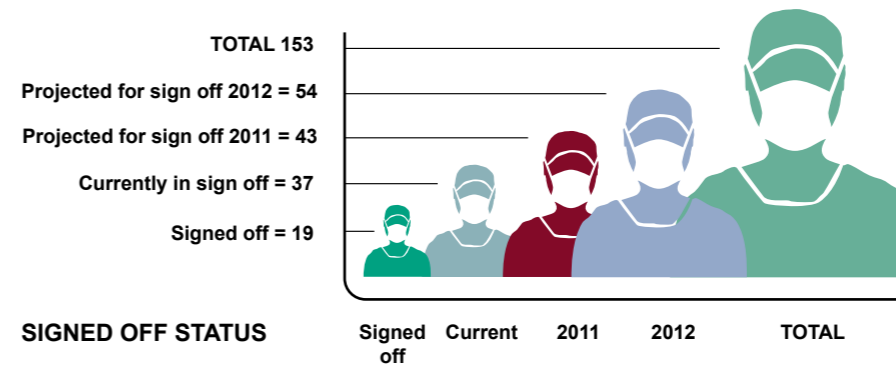
NTP Trainer Matthew Tutton in an NTP Training Session, part of the training team at Colchester that have 6 active trainers



Amjad has now recorded over 200 Lapco training sessions, which is the highest number for a single trainer across the programme. He now has 11 of his trainees either signed off or in sign off, with 4 further Lapco Consultants in training at Portsmouth with himself and NTP Trainer colleague Jim Khan.

Sign Offs

Trainers are required to advise the Coordination office when they are happy to recommend that the trainee should be invited to undertake the assessment process. This requires the submission of 2 DVDs from different cases (1 left side resection and 1 right side resection). The trainers are recommended to view the DVDs before they are submitted to Imperial College and anonymised for independent assessment. There are 19 trainees who have been signed off the programme, with a further 37 trainees currently 'in sign' off who are in the process of submitting their DVDs. We have set up a page on the Lapco web site at which provides edited examples of four separate sections of the procedure for exposure, vascular, mobilisation and anastomosis. Trainees can view these recordings from successful sign off DVDs which can be viewed at: www.lapco.nhs.uk/sign-off-procedure.php



New NTP Trainer Appointments

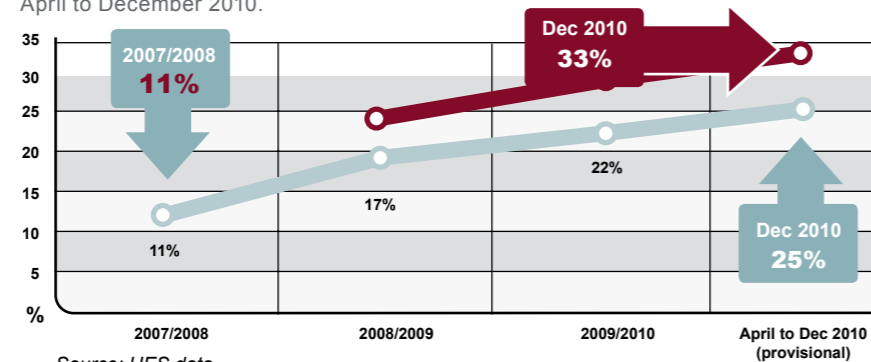
There are currently 57 NTP Trainers appointed around the Country, the latest trainer appointment has been made to Consultant Surgeon, Mr Michael Stellakis. He has been based at Warwick Hospital for 6 years, and in that time has built the laparoscopic colorectal unit up from scratch. "At the time it seemed the Midlands were trailing the rest of the country in laparoscopic cancer resections but this is now not the case". Mr Stellakis has always had an interest in training and it seemed a natural progression at this stage to become an NTP accredited trainer. This will enable Oxford to whom he is affiliated speed up the training of a number of consultants in the Coventry and Warwickshire area. Mr Stellakis would like to pay a special thank you to both NTP Trainers Chris Cunningham and Mark Gudgeon who have been very helpful and instrumental in the process.



The Laparoscopic Position

Proportional Colorectal Resections undertaken laparoscopically in England (April 2007 – Dec 2010)

Using HES data we can show below the progress in the proportional colorectal resections undertaken laparoscopically in England. This has increased from 11% in 2007/2008 up to at 33% for elective patients as most recently reported in the data from April to December 2010.



Source: HES data
 ○ Elective and emergency patients ● Elective patients only

NB – The figures shown above have been updated since the last NTP Newsletter published in 2010.

How do we compare internationally? It is difficult to compare and contrast figures internationally with full accuracy due to inconsistency with the overall data set. However, our research indicates the current figures for England as shown above are amongst the leading countries in the Western World.

Mini STTAR Structured Training Trainer Assessment Report

The education team at Imperial College have developed the 'Mini STTAR' which has been incorporated into the NTP Trainee GAS forms. This data will provide the Education team with feedback on the delivery of training throughout the training, the results will be reported to trainers at



regular intervals. The Mini STTAR section has 22 points that a trainee needs to complete about the delivery of the training session itself. It requires the trainee to score the questions asked in a 1 to 5 point grading.

The type of questions include the following:

- Had a structured approach to the training?
- Agreed clear aims for this training episode?
- Adjusted training appropriately to level of trainee?
- Took over procedure when appropriate?
- Encouraged self reflection on performance
- Derived and agreed learning points from the case?

NTP Trainee GAS form available online

NTP Publications

The NTP team have published papers, abstracts, presentation and posters at National and International Scientific meetings.

2010 - David Dunn Medal for the best paper presentation at the meeting of the Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI). "Outcome of the National Training Programme in Laparoscopic Surgery"

2010 - Best Poster Prize Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland "Trainees' evaluation of the English National Training Programme in Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery"

2009 - John of Arderne Medal for the best paper presentation 2009-2010 including travel fellowship, The Royal Society of Medicine, Section of Coloproctology. "Global Assessment Score (GAS) - A Simple Assessment tool for training in Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery"

Learning Curve

The education team at Imperial College have developed a new 'Learning Curve' tool which is available for both trainees and trainers to view their 'real time' progress with the outcome of the GAS form scores. It allows trainees to measure their own progress against anonymised peer data for all procedures, along with separate individual procedures. The GAS scores represent the level of independence to perform a procedure or certain tasks of a procedure. The higher the score, the less support from the assisting trainer was required.

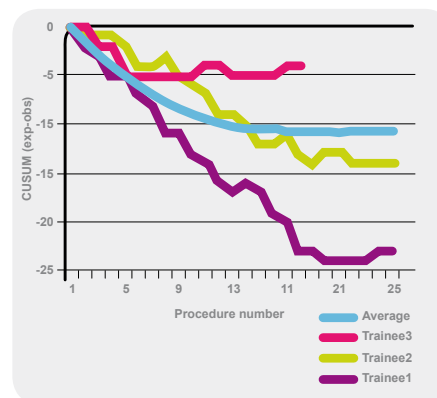
A learning curve in this context describes the increase in skill (independence) to perform a laparoscopic colorectal resection. The main components of a learning curve are:

1. The "plateaux" (asymptote) of the learning curve describes the level of desired performance.
2. The length of the learning curve (how long does it take to reach the plateaux)
3. The learning rate (at what rate are skills acquired?)

A score of 5 represents independent performance (without substantial guidance by the trainer). This means that the trainees are able to perform a certain task on their own or with non-expert assistance.

A CUSUM (cumulative sum) is a trend chart shows at what point a certain performance

level has been consistently reach. With the method used, the curve becomes a downward trend as long as a score of 5 has not been reached. Once the curve becomes flat (ie parallel to the X bar) it can be assumed that a consistent level of independence has been achieved.



The visual learning curve above shows an 'average' of scores recorded across the programme, with 3 different examples shown:

Trainee 1: Learns at a low rate (steep curve) and reaches the plateau at 20 procedures

Trainee 2: learns at fast rate, but it takes them about the same time to reach the plateaux as Trainee 1.

Trainee 3: Is a fast learner (flat curve) and reaches the plateau after 5 procedures

SpR Section Web Site

The SpR Section of the web site is now live which can be accessed through www.lapco.nhs.uk. SpRs and their Trainers (Consultant or Fellow) once registered have their own account that allows them to access their own global assessment score (GAS) forms to record their training activity. We have advised the Dukes Club, All Deaneries and ACP that this is now active, and we already have just over 100 SpRs registered, with 142 GAS forms recorded to date, in addition there are 36 SpR Trainers who have registered. All SpRs registered on the web site have the opportunity to submit a DVD to Imperial College for assessment at any point during their training period.

LAPCO Representation

Mark Coleman, National Clinical Lead has undertaken a number of presentations locally, regionally, nationally and internationally on Lapco within a number of forums, which include the following:

- April 2010 – ASGBI Meeting, Liverpool
- June 2010 – ACPGBI Meeting, Bournemouth
- June 2010 – NTP Education Masterclass, Portsmouth
- October 2010 – TME Symposium, Portsmouth
- November 2010 – Glasgow Surgical Forum RCPSCG, Glasgow
- December 2010 – Asia Pacific Surgical Leaders Symposium, HK
- March 2011 – Colorectal Fusion Summit, Oxford
- May 2011 – Advanced Laparoscopic Colorectal Course, Sweden
- May 2011 – Congresso Nazionale ACOI 2011, Italy
- June 2011 – Association of Coloproctology, Birmingham
- July 2011 – Colorectal Tripartite Meeting, Australia
- September 2011 – 6th Annual Congress, ISLCCRS, Colchester



National Training Programme 11 Training Centres:

- Newcastle (Gateshead)
- Bradford
- Hull
- Nottingham
- Oxford
- St Marks/Colchester/ Guildford
- King's Guys' St Thomas'
- Portsmouth
- Basingstoke/ Frimley Park
- South West (Plymouth/ Bristol/ Yeovil)
- North West
- Imperial College London (Education)

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