

## Introduction from Mark Coleman - National Clinical Lead

It is a good juncture to review the ongoing activity in the National Training Programme which has been going from strength to strength. The NTP has nearly 200 Colorectal Consultants either as trainee, or trainer, which is more than one third of this surgical group in England.

There are 141 trainees currently engaged in training or going through registration, and our numbers are still continuing to increase. With over 650 on line Global Assessment Score (GAS) forms now recorded, and increasing submission of DVD material there is widespread data showing positive training outcomes from Imperial College.

The 'North West' training centre is now established which could shortly have up to 13 trainees in its region, with trainer interest now formalised in Liverpool to further support training activities.

The NTP team have unitised many of their training costs and funding measures over the last 12 months to ensure that there is transparency for the programme, with emphasis on supporting the volume of hands on operating training required on a centre by centre basis.

Governance from the Peer Review measures for LCS published in March, and lifting of the pending NICE Guidance Waiver in October 2010 have continued to emphasise the role, and importance that the NTP has to provide with its training activities.

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## NTP North West Education Day Masterclass

The Mayo Centre,  
Salford, Manchester  
**Tuesday 14th September 2010**  
Go to [www.lapco.nhs.uk](http://www.lapco.nhs.uk) for details

## Featured articles

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## Train the Trainer

Nader Francis, NTP Trainer, has led on delivering a 'Train the Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery Trainer' (TLCST) Course for the NTP which will be available to all NTP trainers. Each course is structured with the Faculty team to host 6 NTP Trainer Delegates.

A pilot 2 day course was held in March in Plymouth with training discussions and training aides, with Day 2 'live theatre'. The NTP were delighted to have the

attendance and invaluable input from Roland Valori, National Clinical Lead in England for Endoscopy Services who has lead the implementation of Train the Colonoscopy Trainer (TCT) across the Country.

The courses will be rotated around the training centres, the first course is being held in Portsmouth in June, and a further course is anticipated in Nottingham in the Autumn.



NTP trainer Tom Cecil with Nader Francis and Roland Valori 'LCS Trainer Role Play Exercise'.

## NICE Guidance Waiver October 2010

In October 2010, the NICE Guidance (TAG105) waiver will be lifted after an initial 3 year period, followed by a further 12 month extension. At the end of the period of the waiver, all colorectal MDTs will need to ensure that every patient suitable for laparoscopic resection is given this choice of treatment. If laparoscopic surgery is not available suitable onward referral arrangements will need to be in place.

For further information go to [www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)



## Peer Review

Laparoscopic Colorectal Cancer Surgery Measures

In April 2010, there were five peer review measures relating to laparoscopic colorectal surgery within the Manual for Cancer Services, two within the measures for Network Site Specific Groups (NSSGs) and three within the measures for Colorectal MDT. Networks are required to establish a list of surgeons authorised to perform LCS, a measure of compliance includes provision of a 'sign off' letter from the National Training Programme, amongst other criteria.

## Programme Update



There are 118 registered trainees, and 23 pending registrations which are being formalised which takes trainee numbers within the programme to 141 and still rising. The largest training centre is the South West with 17 trainees, closely followed by Nottingham, Newcastle and the North West. Most trainees are working towards the benchmark of 20 cases to reach the projected competency levels, which is typically taking in the region of 9-12 months from the commencement of clinical training sessions.

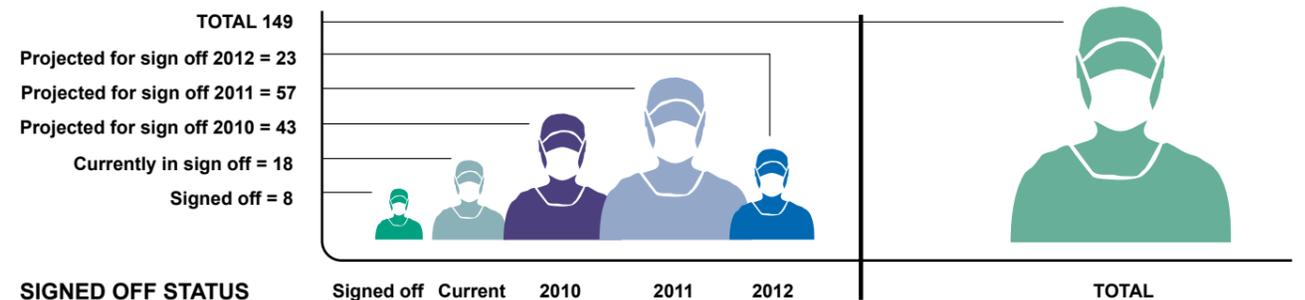
There are currently over 40 active trainers delivering training across our 11 training centres. Recent trainer appointments include Mark Cartmell and Nick Kenefick to assist with the delivery of training in the South West, along with Zaj Khan affiliated to Colchester, and Simone Slawik, Liverpool, to support the expanding training activities of the North West.

## Sign Offs

Imperial College Education Team have been able to support the initial projection that in the region of 20 supervised training cases are required to reach the standard of competency required. Trainers recommend their trainee is ready for the 'sign off' procedure, which requires 2 DVDs of different cases (left side resection and right side resection) to be submitted for independent assessment. The assessment process takes 2-4 weeks, before the trainee is advised that they have been 'signed off'. There is good momentum of activity with submission of material for sign offs which is a clear measure of the outcome from the training programme. There are a total of 8 'signed off' trainees, with the most recent sign offs from Julian Williams (Nottingham), Philip Burgess (Portsmouth).



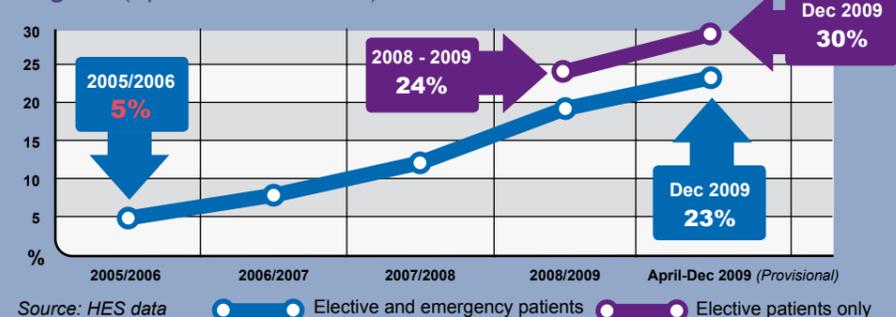
Austin Acheson NTP Trainer (Right), Nottingham, with Julian Williams who was signed off in April



## Overview Timetable of LCS Developments

2005/06:	5% Colorectal resections in England done laparoscopically.
2006:	DH recognised 'insufficient surgeons trained in the procedure'
2006:	NICE Guidance LCS (TA015): Waived for 3 years.
2006/07:	National Training Programme (NTP) in LCS established.
2009:	Oct NICE Guidance waiver extended for 12 months.
2009:	23% Colorectal resections undertaken laparoscopically.
2010:	April: Peer Review Guidance on LCS published.
2010:	October: NICE Waiver will be lifted after 4 years.

## Proportional Colorectal Resections undertaken Laparoscopically in England (April 2005 - Dec 2009)



## Training Courses

The NTP run 2 day Cadaveric courses at Nottingham, Newcastle and Bristol throughout the year, along with 4 day Immersion Courses at Basingstoke, with 1 day Enhanced Recovery and Masterclass events around the Country.



NTP Trainee at Cadaveric Course

## NTP Course Dates

**Theatre Practitioner Courses:**  
June/September/November, South West

**Cadaveric Course:**  
15-16th July, Newcastle

**Enhanced Recovery Conference:**  
9-10th September, Bristol

**Immersion Course:**  
12-16th September, Basingstoke

**Live Theatre Masterclass:**  
13th September, Manchester

For further information on course availability go to the National Training Programme web site ([www.lapco.nhs.uk](http://www.lapco.nhs.uk)) or contact NTP Administrator, Joanne Foley: 01752 439844

## Training Activity

The number of individual training sessions recorded by way of Global Assessment Score (GAS) forms at May 2010 was over 650, which is a 100% increase in the last 12 months. The overall critical mass of evidence training activities has supported the breadth of research undertaken by the education team at Imperial College

A milestone of training activity was achieved in March by NTP Trainer Amjad Parvaiz, Portsmouth who was the first trainer to record over 100 training sessions. Amjad currently has 10 trainees at Portsmouth and with ongoing training activity there will no doubt be more training milestones to be reached this year.

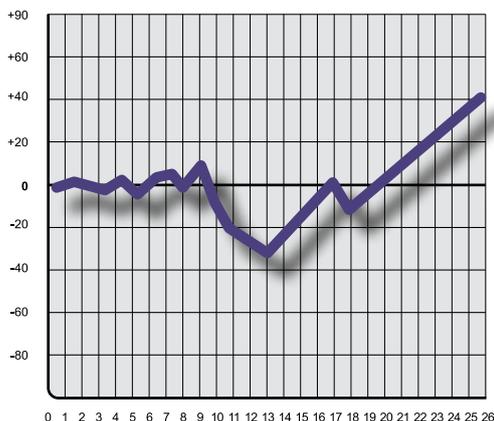


NTP Trainer, Amjad Parvaiz

## Programme safe – patients safe!

Under the guidance of Professor George Hanna, Imperial College is analysing data gleaned from the National Training Programme (NTP). One of the aims is to investigate the outcomes of the educational efforts made by the NTP. Now the programme is running at full steam with more than one hundred registered trainees, preliminary results already demonstrate the success of the programme.

From a patient point of view one of the anxieties associated with keyhole surgery is that an inexperienced surgeon might not be able to complete the operation and has to resort to traditional open surgery (“conversion”). Looking at the data from NTP trainees, this fear is not justified as even very inexperienced trainees show excellent conversion rates (Figure). This is undoubtedly due to the support from the NTP trainers. It is also reflected by the expert results achieved in terms of complication and mortality rates.



**Figure.** This graph is a trend curve (CUSUM chart) for conversion rates for all trainees during their first 25 cases. The fact that the curve is not going down indicates that they achieve excellent results from the beginning.

Parameter	Experts*	NTP trainees
Conversion rate	10%	7%
Complication rate	20%	15%
Anastomotic leak	3%	3%
Mortality	2%	2%

\* data from meta-analysis in Miskovic and Wyles, Ann Surg 2010

**Table.** NTP trainees achieve results comparable to those of experts series published in the literature.

## Web Site – SpRs

The established model of clinical session recording through the Lapco web site has been sought after by SpRs to provide a platform for recording of their laparoscopic training sessions which are provided outside of the NTP. However, with some adaption to the existing GAS form, we have developed a prototype section that we hope will shortly go live. Initially, this is effectively a log book recording form of media, although in the future there will be the opportunity to provide learning curve analysis, and possibly DVD review.



## NTP Education Masterclass Days

In early 2010, an ‘Education Day’ was hosted by Imperial College at St Marys, London with over 100 delegates. The day started with a remote introduction from Lord Darzi, followed by presentations including visiting Canadian speaker Chris Schlachta on ‘Teaching LCS’. The afternoon programme was based on pre-recorded clinical cases presented by NTP Trainers on key procedures with voting audience participation.

The next 1 day Education/Live Theatre masterclass will be at the Mayo Centre, Salford Royal, Manchester on Tuesday 14th September, it is open to all surgical and theatre team members, there is no cost for attendance.

For further information contact [joanne.foley@lapco.nhs.uk](mailto:joanne.foley@lapco.nhs.uk)

## National Training Programme 11 Training Centres:

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

For more information contact the Coordination Office:

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Tim Rockall NTP Trainer presenting at the St Mary's Education Day