

JAG TRAINEE CERTIFICATION PROCESS – COLONOSCOPY



Joint Advisory Group
on GI Endoscopy

APPLICATION (FULL / PROVISIONAL)

All applications will be for provisional JAG certification initially. If a trainee is successful in their application for provisional certification in colonoscopy then they can perform colonoscopy independently as long as there is a trainer *immediately available* in the department. The trainee will need to apply separately for full certification which allows them to perform colonoscopy fully independently. There are no time limits between provisional and full certification although most senior posts requiring an independent colonoscopist would require full certification. When a trainee successfully applies for provisional certification in colonoscopy, they will automatically be awarded full certification in flexible sigmoidoscopy with no extra fee.

Note – even after achieving full certification, JAG recommends that all trainees should continue to seek further training on dedicated training lists as part of their ongoing personal development.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligibility criteria are shown in the tables below. The previous three months of data on the e-portfolio will be used to calculate the eligibility criteria.

Provisional Certification

Eligibility criteria	Requirement	Notes
Caecal intubation rate	>90%	
Formative DOPS scores	>90% “3”s and “4”s	A minimum of 10 DOPS required
Formative DOPyS scores*	>90% “3”s and “4”s	Last 4 DOPyS scores, or last 3 months, whichever is greater
Unassisted physically	>90%	I.e. the trainer does not take the scope for >90% of procedures
Basic skills lower GI course	Attended	

* polypectomy level 1

Full Certification

Eligibility criteria	Requirement	Notes
Caecal intubation rate	>90%	
Polyp detection and removal	>10%	
Serious complications	<0.5%**	
Sedation rates	Mean below recommended***	
Formative DOPyS scores****	>90% “3”s and “4”s	Last 4 DOPyS scores, or last 3 months, whichever is greater

** Serious complications defined as death, perforation, significant bleeding requiring > 2 unit transfusion, post-procedure hospital stay of > 24 hours (related to procedure) or admission to hospital due to a complication of the procedure following discharge from endoscopy unit. This figure is calculated over the preceding year.

*** - Under 70yrs < 5mgs midazolam
<50mgs pethidine/100ug fentanyl

- Over 70yrs < 2.5mgs midazolam
<25mgs pethidine/50ug fentanyl

**** polypectomy level 2

Polypectomy

Trainees will be expected to have been assessed at their polypectomy skills. When a polyp is identified, the trainer should join the trainee, observe/train on polypectomy followed by the completion of a DOPyS. A DOPyS is a DOPS form created specifically to assess polypectomy. It can be found in the DOPS sections of the JETS e-portfolio. DOPyS can be completed during either flexible sigmoidoscopies or colonoscopies. Polypectomy level 1 denotes all polyps less than 1cm in size, level 2 denotes all polyps greater than 1cm in size.

Numbers

The recommended numbers of procedures by JAG for each trainee applying for provisional certification is 200. For full colonoscopy certification, it is 300. Number of procedures is no longer a mandatory requirement for application. However, only under exceptional circumstances will trainees be granted provisional or full certification if they have performed significantly fewer than the recommended number of procedures since all common pathology and unusual anatomy may not be encountered with lower procedural experience. JAG reviewers may seek additional evidence of competence and evidence of support from their trainer in this situation.

Complications

Trainees with just two serious complications may find that they have complication rates of >0.5%. If a serious complication occurs, the JETS e-portfolio will automatically ask the trainee to provide details of the event, what the trainee did and what the trainee learnt from that event. These boxes will have to be signed off by one of their trainers. These boxes will be assessed by the JAG reviewer on application to ensure that sufficient learning was gained from each episode. It will be at the discretion of the JAG reviewer whether or not to allow certification based on the information provided.

PROCESS FOR APPLICATION

1. Click on the JAG certification tab on the JETS e-portfolio.
2. If all eligibility criteria are achieved then a summative assessment table will be shown.
3. Complete four summative assessments.
4. If the summative assessments are successful, a checklist will be shown. Collate and send any outstanding documentation/cheques to the JAG Office and click the submit button.