



JAG accreditation scheme

JAG briefing 18/04: JAG approved Regional Training Centres and JAG accreditation

Audience:	Personnel at Regional training centres
Date issued:	September 2018
Review date:	September 2019
Standards relevant:	NA

Introduction

JAG accreditation ensures an optimal endoscopy service for patients, workforce and local trainees. JAG is aware of the increasing pressure that endoscopy services are under from rising demand as well as constraints such as limited physical capacity and vacancies in key endoscopy staff such as endoscopists, nurses and administrators. This has led to difficulties in meeting national waiting time targets for some units such that accreditation may not be achieved or could be lost. In recognition, JAG has issued a letter to all services highlighting a greater tolerance to waits and setting out expected good practice which can be seen [on the JAG website](#).

It is mandatory for all individuals being certified in endoscopy to attend basic skills courses provided by regional training centres (RTCs) that are available throughout the UK. These courses, in addition to ones that take place at the centres but are not JAG accredited, can potentially reduce the service capacity of a unit that could otherwise be used to treat additional patients.

JAG is aware that some RTCs are struggling to maintain or obtain JAG accreditation because of these issues and as a result this guidance sets out what is expected in all of these centres to ensure that local patient care is optimised whilst providing the important JAG approved endoscopy courses.

Expectations

JAG expects all endoscopy RTCs to:

- Fully engage with the Global Rating Scale (GRS), submitting returns on a regular basis (for unaccredited services, twice per year in April and October. For accredited services, once per year as part of the annual review).
- Score a minimum of a level B in the following domains of the GRS that relate to clinical quality and the training provided to local trainees:
 - Safety
 - Comfort
 - Quality
 - Environment, training opportunities and resources

- Trainer allocation and skills
- Assessment and appraisal.
- Hold an up-to-date action plan to achieve JAG accreditation if it is not currently held, and submit this action plan as part of their annual RTC QA report to JAG and the Federation of RTCs. This will be reviewed by the RTC QA lead who will provide feedback. If there are domains where support from JAG would help an RTC services should make this clear in the RTC annual report.
- Continually review the impact training has on service delivery and to optimise capacity where service delivery is reduced
- Review, and consider suspending or reducing external or non-essential training. We would expect that mandatory courses (eg basic skills courses) would only be suspended after all other non-accredited and JAG accredited /courses had stopped.

‘Hub and Spoke’ RTCs

Where an RTC utilises several centres for the delivery of courses, this guidance only relates to individual delivery units and not to the RTC as a whole.

Monitoring

The key systems to monitor performance are:

- The annual RTC QA report
- GRS return
- The outcome of any JAG accreditation assessment

Actions in response to non-compliance / continued underperformance

Should an RTC score lower than level B in the GRS scores above, or fail to deliver on the stated action plan, the JAG Quality Assurance of Training working group and RTC QA lead will work with the centre to review and support the delivery of JAG accredited courses. Failure to do so could lead to a service losing its status as a JAG approved RTC.

Further information

For further information, please contact JAG by emailing AskJAG@rcplondon.ac.uk.