

AN INTERNATIONAL DELPHI STUDY TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS ON A ROBOTIC TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY TRAINEES: EUROPEAN ROBOTIC SURGERY CONSENSUS (ERSC)-EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY (EAES) INITIATIVE

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A two-round Delphi study involving 71 multidisciplinary experts from 15 countries achieved European consensus on a standardised robotic training curriculum for gastrointestinal surgery trainees.

KEY POINTS

- The Delphi process used a 99-item questionnaire disseminated to 83 robotic GI surgeons, trainees, theatre team members, and industry representatives, with consensus defined as at least 70 percent agreement.
- Round one achieved 85.5 percent participation with 77.8 percent of items reaching consensus; round two had 98.6 percent participation with 59.3 percent of remaining items reaching consensus.
- Consensus was reached on core learning skills for bedside assistants and console surgeons, key curriculum components including e-learning modules and wet and dry lab simulation metrics, performance assessment methods, and certification and supervision requirements.
- The authors state this is the first European consensus and curriculum in robotic training, assessment, and certification for GI surgery trainees, with the goal of promoting standardised training practices and improving patient safety.
- This work addresses a critical training gap identified following rapid adoption of robotic surgical systems across Europe and may be relevant to surgical educators, programme directors, and policy makers in gastrointestinal surgery.

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