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Summary

INTERNATIONAL DELPHI CONSENSUS ON TRAINING IN DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC ENDOSCOPIC ULTRASOUND

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Pancreas | Radiology & Imaging | Hepatobiliary | Endoscopy

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An international Delphi consensus of 106 experts established the first comprehensive, competency-based framework for training in diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic ultrasound, achieving 80–100% agreement on all statements in the first voting round.

KEY POINTS

- Training centers require a minimum annual volume of 300 or more diagnostic EUS with at least 75 EUS-TA to train one trainee per year (93.6% agreement), and 50 or more therapeutic EUS per year for therapeutic training (80% agreement).
- Trainees must complete at least 250 supervised EUS examinations (up to 450 without post-training support; 84.5% agreement) and at least 75 EUS-TA procedures (up to 150; 89% agreement), achieving a diagnostic accuracy target of 85% or higher (96.4% agreement).
- Quality indicators including adverse events and diagnostic yield should be routinely monitored (99.1% agreement), and training must integrate cognitive and technical skills with structured reporting (100% agreement).
- Therapeutic EUS training should follow a stepwise, complexity-based pathway (92.7% agreement), with competency assessed using outcome-based metrics rather than procedural volume alone (98.2% agreement).
- The consensus supports a transition from volume-based to outcome-driven training to standardize education and improve clinical outcomes, with prior competence in upper GI endoscopy required before EUS training (94.6% agreement).

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