

CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Objective Programme:

The objective programme is to produce trained and competent cardiothoracic surgeons to run the cardiothoracic services in the country.

Cardiothoracic Surgery Training and Accreditation Committee

Members:

- Dato Dr Yahya Awang, IJN
- Mr Mohd Hamzah Kamarulzaman Penang
- Mr Abdul Rahman Ismail, Johor Bharu
- Mr. Prasant Joshi, Kuching
- Dato Dr. Azhari Yakub , President Malaysia Association for Thoracic and Cardiovascular surgery (MATCVS)
- Representative from the University Units (to be co-opted later)
- Representative from the private sector (to be co-opted later)

Functions of committee:

1. To develop a comprehensive and standardized training programme for cardiothoracic surgery in the Ministry Of Health and eventually in the country.
2. To monitor the training programme and accredit training centers both locally and abroad.
3. To assess the progress of the cardiothoracic surgical trainees periodically
4. To recommend the accreditation of a trainee who has satisfactorily completed the training programme for consideration as a consultant cardiothoracic surgeons in the country.

Entry Requirement

1. Candidates should have obtained a recognized Master Of Surgery, FRCS or equivalent.
2. Have completed one year of 'pre-gazettment' service in General Surgery.
3. After a period of three years it is proposed that future candidates be allowed to enter the training programme after having completed a two-year rotation in basic general surgical training. An entry examination will be conducted before a candidate is accepted into the training programme.

Duration

The duration of training shall be a minimum of 4 years at recognized training centers of which 2 years shall be spent at the respective government units followed by a year or two at the Institute Jantung Negara before going abroad for training at accredited centers.

Training Content and Modalities

A Training syllabus will be drawn up. These training modules and content s will be largely based on the American Board for thoracic surgery or the Intercollegiate Examination Specialty committee of United Kingdom training manual. However the committee shall review these modules and make the necessary changes to suit local content as deemed necessary

Training Centers & Trainers

Training Centers

Local training centers (requirement)

Recognised for 1 year training period

Have one consultant

Adult Cardiac Surgery: ≥ 200 open heart/year

Thoracic Surgery: ≥ 25 major thoracic cases/year

Recognised centers- Hospital Sultanah Aminah , Johor Bharu
Hospital Umum Sarawak

Recognised for 2 year training period

At least two or more consultants

Adult Cardiac Surgery: ≥ 400 open hearts per year

Thoracic Surgery: ≥ 50 major Thoracic cases per year

Paediatric Cardiac Surgery: ≥ 200 open hearts cases per year

Recognised centers – Institut Jantung Negara (Adult Cardiac , Thoracic , Paediatric)
Penang Hospital Heart (Adult Cardiac, Thoracic)

Overseas training centers (requirement)

Adult Cardiac Surgery: ≥ 1000 open hearts per year

Thoracic Surgery: ≥ 500 major Thoracic cases per year

Paediatric Cardiac: ≥ 300 open heart /year

Recognised centers shall be reviewed and recommended periodically.

Accredited trainers

1. Dato' Dr./ Yah Awang , Medical Director and Senior Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Institut Jantung Negara.
2. Mr. Mohd Hamzah Kamarulzaman, Head Of Department and Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon , Penang Hospital.
3. Dato' Dr. Azhari Yakub, Senior Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Institut Jantung Negara
4. Mr. Venugopal Balchand , Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Institut Jantung Negara
5. Mr. Pau Kiew Kong, Consultant Cardiothoracic surgeon, Institut jantung Negara.
6. Mr. Ezani Mohd Taib, Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Institut Jantung Negara.
7. Mr. Jeswant Singh, Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Institut Jantung Negara.
8. Mr. Abdul Rahman Ismail , Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Sultanah Aminah Hospital , Johor Bharu.
9. Mr. Prashant Joshi, Consultant Surgeon Hospital Umum, Kuching, Sarawak.
10. Mr. Hamdan Leman, Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Institut Jantung Negara.

This is a proposed list. More trainers will be accredited as deemed necessary.

Trainee Commitments

Upon completion of training under this programme the surgeons should be committed to serve in the government units for a minimum period of 4 years.

Logbook

Trainees should have a logbook that should detail their clinical experience during training. These should include the number of cases assisted, cases performed under supervision and cases performed independently. A detailed written commentary on the progress of the trainee by the trainers should be included. A minimum number of cases (to be determined by the board) performed independently should be achieved by the trainee before he can be considered for a consultant position. A major consideration would be the number of publications and presentations and clinical research that the candidate has made through out his training.

Certification

The board shall determine the method of awarding the recognition. In line with most subspecialties within the Ministry it is felt that at the present moment an exit exam should not be the sole criteria for awarding certification or recognition. Rather it should be based on the trainees overall performance, competence evidenced in their logbook as well as the progress report from his respective trainers or supervisors.

However after a grace period of three years it is felt that an exit exam similar to the American Board Examination or FRCS Cardiothoracic Intercollegiate Exam or the Australian FRACS Cardiothoracic Surgery exam should be created to standardize and recognize the training of future candidate.