

# **Proposed Minimum Requirements for APOA xxxx Subspecialty Fellowship Training**

## **Age:**

Applicant less than 45 years old preferred

## **Educational Qualifications:**

Must have completed formal Orthopaedic Training Programme, cleared the Exit examination to acquire the qualification to practice Orthopaedics as a specialist recognised by the Medical Board / Council and /or the Surgical College in country of residence

## **Experience:**

It is desirable but not obligatory, to have a minimum 2-year post specialist qualification experience in General Orthopaedics and Trauma as an Orthopaedic Surgeon

## **Subspecialty experience:**

Desirable but not essential to have experience in both trauma and elective of the subspecialty sought.

Should possess basic clinical examination skills specific for the subspecialty sought

Should possess some surgical skills and experience in managing the common conditions required by the various subspecialty in Trauma and Elective

E.g., of Trauma conditions: for e.g. Wrist and finger fracture management for Hand & UL

E.g. of Elective conditions: for e.g. Carpal tunnel release for Hand & UL fellowship

## **References and Recommendations**

Need written references by two Senior Orthopaedic surgeons one of whom, preferably be a surgeon of the specialty sought

## **Research**

Desirable to have demonstrated and provide evidence of involvement in research projects- published or podium presentation

## **APOA membership**

Preference given to current member of the relevant subspecialty section of APOA

## **Conferences and Courses**

Desirable but not essential- evidence of attendance at the subspecialty national/ international conference / courses for the subspecialty sought

## **Minimum period of Fellowship:**

6 months, preferably 12 months

## **Recruitment criteria:**

- 1) Advertise through APOA website as well as through subspecialty Society of member nations
- 2) Interview- in person or online involving the supervisors of the fellowship

- 3) Supervisor to assist with local Medical Board / College registration to allow to perform clinical duties and patient care

NB: Short term visitation or a travelling fellowship (e.g. 2-4 weeks, can be self-funded or sponsored) to recognised Centers of Excellence, will provide an opportunity to obtain first-hand knowledge of the candidate's appropriateness to be offered a formal fellowship training.

### **Curriculum**

- 1) Aimed at gaining academic, clinical, and surgical experience
- 2) A judicious mix of clinical patients and surgical procedures (observed, performed under direct supervision).
- 3) Research project completed and of a level that is publishable in a peer reviewed journal or presentable at an International Orthopaedic/ relevant subspecialty meetings
- 4) Attendance and presenting at Journal Clubs and Departmental teaching sessions
- 5) If Fellowship is conducted at a public hospital taking part in the on-call roster (may be either specialty specific and/or general trauma)

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 1) Direct observations by the supervisor in the out-patient clinics-or private rooms clinical skills of history and examination along with thought process in planning management is essential.
- 2) Direct and indirect Supervision in operating theatres to monitor surgical skills and safe practice of the fellow.
- 3) 360° feedback from everyone who has interactions with the fellow would be beneficial

### **Funding for the fellowship**

Supervisor of the fellowship should obtain funding for the clinical fellow if the fellow is involved in the provision of clinical care or service. This may be self-funded, provided by local hospital or Trade sponsorship.

### **APOA Diploma for the fellowship**

May only be conferred upon completion of clinical, hands-on subspecialty fellowship training certified by the supervisor(s). Non-clinical research fellowship training is excluded.

### **Feedback at completion of Fellowship**

A comprehensive report to the Supervisor and APOA Education Chair detailing the value, good and bad aspects of the fellowship is essential to allow future improvement.