



Position statement on Training in Endoscopy

The New Zealand Society of Gastroenterology is aware that with the increased need for Endoscopy Services there is pressure to expand the workforce by training those outside the traditional specialist medical backgrounds.

We hold that all endoscopy training in New Zealand should be to the same high standards.

The Society believes that competence in the technical skills of GI Endoscopy requires the foundation of didactic learning that occurs within the comprehensive training of a GI-focused education program.

We stand by the fundamental principles of training as laid out by the Conjoint Committee for the Recognition in Training in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, which should apply to all proceduralists training in Endoscopy, these include:

1. Training in gastrointestinal endoscopy should occur in appropriately equipped facilities.
2. Training implies an expression of vocational ambition in gastroenterological endoscopy.
3. Cognitive and interpretive skills combined with a clear understanding of the role of gastrointestinal endoscopy in patient management are as important as technical skills. This includes attendance at radiological and histological teaching sessions and relevant operations.

Equality of standards can be achieved if endoscopy trainers and heads of department allocate high quality training opportunities to the most appropriate trainees, irrespective of their background.

The Society strongly recommends that once trained, endoscopists be involved in continuous personal quality measurement and improvement which should include continuing medical education in the field of gastrointestinal endoscopic practice.

New Zealand Society of Gastroenterology
Wellington
14 June 2015