KSS Advanced Training Guide

**Introduction**

Advanced Training Speciality Modules (ATSMs) are undertaken during the last two years of training. They equip the trainee with the advanced skills required for a Consultant post in their chosen area of interest. Each trainee must complete a minimum of two ATSMs OR Sub-Speciality training to be eligible for Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) in O&G, however more ATSMs may be completed if desired.

Some ATSMs are comprised of Advanced Skills Modules (ASMs) which are elements that are common across different ATSMs. ASMs can be completed as stand-alone modules to enhance your CV, however will not count towards the two required ATSMs. There is only one ASM which is not contained within an ATSM, which is the ASM in Safe Practice in Abortion Care.

Some trainees will choose to undertake Sub-Speciality training instead of ATSMs. This training is undertaken in a specialist unit and is available in the following areas:

* Gynaecological oncology
* Urogynaecology
* Maternal and Fetal Medicine
* Reproductive Medicine.

Deciding on which of the advanced curricula to undertake is an exciting time as you shape your plans for your future career as a Consultant in O&G. It’s vital to plan ahead in conjunction with your supervisors and trainers to maximise your training opportunities. These advanced curricula provide a framework for training by defining the standards required for work at Consultant level. They also inspire pursuit of excellence in all aspects of practice and encourage you to take responsibility of your own learning as you will do as a Consultant.

A lot of information is available on the RCOG website. In addition, we hope that you will find this guide to be helpful as you start on your exciting journey as a senior trainee.

Gina Michel Catherine Wykes

(ST6-7 Trainee’s Rep) ATSM Director HEE KSS

**Deanery ATSM and Preceptor list**

KSS deanery currently offers training in the following ATSMs. The table contains the contact details for the preceptors for each ATSM. They are responsible for overseeing the training in each individual ATSM and will review your evidence and portfolio prior to completion and sign off.

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| **ATSM** | **Preceptor/ Email** | **Unit** |
| Acute Gynae/ Early Pregnancy | Sridevi Sankaran**Sridevi.sankaran@fhft.nhs.uk** | Frimley |
| Advanced Labour ward Practice | Maggie Matthews**margaret.matthews@nhs.net** | MTW |
| Fetal Medicine | Ranjit Akolekar**Ranjit.akolekar@nhs.net** | Medway |
| Labour Ward Lead | Maggie Matthews**margaret.matthews@nhs.net** | MTW |
| High Risk Pregnancy | Ranjit Akolekar**Ranjit.akolekar@nhs.net** | Medway |
| Obstetric Medicine | Padma Vankayalapati**padmavankayalapati@nhs.net** | Medway |
| Benign Gynae Surgery (Hysteroscopy) | Bronwyn Middleton**Bronwyn.middleton1@nhs.net** | Chichester |
| Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery (Benign disease) | Shaheen Khazali**s.khazali@icloud.com** | Ashford/St Peters |
| Benign Abdominal surgery (Open & Lap) | Karen Jermy**k.jermy@nhs.net** | East Surrey Hospital |
| Colposcopy | Maha Gorti**maha.gorti@nhs.net** | East Surrey Hospital |
| Medical Education | Alison Crocker**Alison.Crocker@wsht.nhs.uk** | Chichester |
| Oncology | Sonali Kaushik**sonali.kaushik@nhs.net** | Brighton |
| Paed/Adolescent gynae | Jemma Johns**Jemma.johns@nhs.net** | Kings |
| Subfertility/Reproductive Health | Tarek.El-Touky**Tarek.El-Touky@gstt.nhs.uk** | Guys/St Thomas’s |
| Urogynae/Vaginal Surgery | Jonathan Duckett**jduckett@nhs.net** | Medway |
| Vulval disease | Rahul Nath**Rahul.Nath@gstt.nhs.uk** | Guys/St Thomas’s |

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**Choosing ATSMs and the matching process**

In general, you should start to consider ATSMs during your ST5 year after attaining the MRCOG part 3. During the final two years of training in O&G, you will attain the advanced skills required to look after women with a range of Obstetric and Gynaecological conditions. Your chosen ATSMs should be reflective of your special area of interest as well as taking into account future service needs. Detailed information about individual ATSMs including curriculum and syllabus and any mandatory courses are available on the RCOG website.

Discussion regarding ATSM choice and career plan should take place with your Educational Supervisor during educational meetings and a summary should be included in your educational meetings documented in your e-portfolio.

You will be invited to a matching interview during your ST5 year to discuss your plans for advanced training and to match you to an appropriate trust that provides training in your chosen ATSMs. Some ATSMs, such as the Advanced Labour Ward Practice ATSM are offered by all units and others are offered only by specific units. It is generally expected that all trainees will complete the Advanced Labour Ward Practice ATSM as safe obstetric practice is fundamental to practice in O&G. **During your matching interview you will be expected to justify why you have chosen a particular ATSM. You will be expected to have shown a commitment to your chosen ATSM by for example evidence of relevant audit projects, Quality Improvement projects etc.**

The individual units offering each ATSM are detailed in the table below:

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| **Unit** | ALWP | LWL | Fetal Medicine | Obstetric Medicine | High Risk Pregnancy | Medical Education | Acute Gynae/Early Pregnancy | Benign AbdominalSurgery | Advanced Lap. Surgery | Benign Gynae:Hysteroscopy | Oncology | Colposcopy | Uro-gynaecology | Sub-fertility | Menopause | Paed./Adol Gynae. |
| **ASPH** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |
| **BSUH** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |
| **East Sussex HT** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  |  | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |
| **D&G** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |
| **EKHT: WHH** | **X** | **X** |  |  | **x** |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |
| **EKHT: QEQM** | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  | **X**  | **X** |  | **X**  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Frimley** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |
| **MTW** | **X** | **X** |  |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |
| **Medway** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |
| **Royal Surrey CH** | **X** |  |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** |
| **SASH** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **WSHT: Chichester** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  |  |
| **WSHT: Worthing** | **X** |  |  |  |  | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery ATSM**

The process for application for this ATSM differs to the other ATSMs as there is only one post available per year, which is undertaken in a BSGE accredited unit. The application process is competitive and the post is usually advertised in April with a competitive interview taking place in May. You will need to demonstrate commitment to advanced laparoscpic surgery via the application form and your CV. If you think you may wish to pursue this area of interest it is important to discuss this with your Educational Supervisors early on in your training to ensure your exposure to minimal access surgery is optimised prior to your senior training years.

**Registration**

Once your ATSM choices have been decided and you have started ST6, you can register your ATSMs. It is recommended to begin this process as soon as possible as it can take a few weeks. Each ATSM has a designated work intensity score. You can only register ATSMs up to a combined work intensity score of 3.0. This is to ensure that the training workload is achievable during routine working hours.

There is a generic registration form which can be found at [www.rcog.org.uk/en/careers-training/specialty-training-curriculum/atsms/introduction/how-to-register-for-an-atsm/](http://www.rcog.org.uk/en/careers-training/specialty-training-curriculum/atsms/introduction/how-to-register-for-an-atsm/). This form requires signatures from two supervisors within your trust, the ATSM preceptor and the TPD for ST6-7 (Miss Catherine Wykes). Once the signatures are obtained, you will need to forward your form to the RCOG:

Email: advancedtraining@rcog.org.uk

Post: Trainees' Coordinator, Education Policy, RCOG, 10-18 Union Street, London SE1 1SZ

You will be sent details of how to pay the ATSM registration fee (£150 per ATSM). Once your ATSM has been registered it will be added to your training e-portfolio and all curriculum items are signed off electronically in the same way as the core curriculum.

Some ATSMs have a mandatory theoretical course as part of the curriculum, which should be undertaken no more than 3 years before the completion of the ATSM. You will also need to keep a log of cases and experience relevant to your ATSM. The RCOG provides a basic template for this, or there are many apps available for smart phones that can be used for this purpose. Of course, these cannot include any patient identifiable information.

**Completion**

There is no defined amount of time for completing an ATSM. ATSMs are competency based so the time needed to complete an ATSM varies depending on the trainee and the ATSM itself. The two years of advanced training should be sufficient for you to achieve all of the [core curriculum](https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/careers-training/specialty-training-curriculum/core-curriculum/) requirements as well as completing two ATSMs.

Your ATSM is complete when the competencies and mandatory components set out in the curriculum have been completed to the satisfaction of your ATSM supervisors and the deanery ATSM preceptor. There is a generic notification of completion of training form available on the RCOG website. Again, this requires signatures from your two supervisors, the ATSM preceptor and the ST6-7 TPD. This can then be forwarded to the RCOG along with any mandatory theoretical course certificates using the same contact details as for registration.

**ATSMs not offered within KSS**

* Sexual health
* ASM in Safe Practice in Abortion Care

Trainees wishing to undertake one of these ATSMs usually apply for one of the South London posts available to KSS trainees that offer the relevant ATSM training. Further information can be obtained from Miss Sally Watkinson who is the South London ATSM Director (LG.TPDobsgynae@nhs.net). If you want to stay in KSS but wish to pursue training in these ATSMs, other options may be available. The key is to be proactive, plan ahead and discuss with your ES and ATSM Director well in advance.

**Sub-speciality Training**

Sub-speciality training is a three year training programme in a chosen area of interest. It is comprised of a minimum of two years of clinical training and one year dedicated to research. It is competency based so individual training times will vary depending on when competencies are achieved.

These training programmes are not included within run-through training and are advertised as separate posts by individual trusts/deaneries via the BMJ. Details of application can be found on the RCOG website.

**Contact**

For further information about the advanced curricula please check the RCOG website.

For queries regarding advanced training within KSS you can contact:

Dr Gina Michel ST6-7 rep

g.michel@nhs.net

Miss Catherine Wykes ATSM Director HEE KSS

Catherine.wykes@nhs.net