Subspecialty Training Requirements in Thoracic Surgery

2013
VERSION 2.0

These training requirements apply to those who begin training on or after July 1st, 2013.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Royal College Certification or enrolment in a Royal College approved residency program in General Surgery (see requirements for these qualifications) OR

Royal College Certification or enrolment in a Royal College approved residency program in Cardiac Surgery (see requirements for these qualifications) and:

1. Six (6) blocks of General Surgery at the PGY3 level
2. One (1) block of pediatric surgery
3. One (1) block of endoscopy
4. Two (2) blocks of surgical intensive care
5. Two (2) blocks of trauma service as a senior resident
6. Thirteen (13) blocks of General Surgery as the senior resident in the program

All candidates must be certified in their primary specialty in order to be eligible to write the Royal College certification examination in Thoracic Surgery.

MINIMUM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

1. Twenty six (26) blocks of training in an accredited Thoracic Surgery program. This period must include:
   1.1. Seven blocks of non-senior residency training in a Royal College approved residency program in Thoracic Surgery
   1.2. Thirteen (13) blocks of senior residency training in a Royal College approved residency program in Thoracic Surgery
   1.3. Three (3) blocks in Cardiac Surgery
1.4. Three (3) blocks of selectives in one or more of the following:

1.4.1. Further training in Cardiac Surgery
1.4.2. Further training in general Thoracic Surgery that may include training in other thoracic surgery institutions
1.4.3. Thoracic oncology
1.4.4. Critical care medicine
1.4.5. Pulmonary function lab and bronchoscopic techniques
1.4.6. Esophageal motility lab and advanced endoscopy
1.4.7. Thoracic imaging
1.4.8. Lung transplantation
1.4.9. Other relevant training experience approved by the Program Director

NOTES:

Royal College certification in Thoracic Surgery requires all of the following:

1. Certification in General Surgery or Cardiac Surgery;
2. Successful completion of a two-year Royal College accredited program in Thoracic Surgery as described above;
3. Successful completion of the certification examination in Thoracic Surgery, and

Training must incorporate the principle of graded increasing responsibility. The term “approved” throughout means “approved by the candidate’s program director and the Royal College Credentials Committee.”

Senior residency is defined as a year in which the resident is regularly entrusted with responsibility for pre-operative, operative and post-operative care, including the most difficult problems in Thoracic Surgery. The senior resident shall be in charge of a surgical unit. No other resident shall intervene between the senior resident and the attending staff surgeon.

The two-year program outlined above is to be regarded as the minimum training requirement. Additional year(s) of training may be required by the program director to ensure that clinical competence has been achieved.

REVISED – Specialty Standards Review Committee – June 2010
REVISED – Specialty Standards Review Committee – June 2013