

Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs in Trauma General Surgery

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INTRODUCTION

The *Specific Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence (AFC) Programs in Trauma General Surgery* are a national set of standards maintained by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for the evaluation and accreditation of *Trauma General Surgery* AFC programs. The standards aim to provide an interpretation of the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* as they relate to the accreditation of AFC programs in *Trauma General Surgery*, and to ensure these programs adequately prepare trainees to meet the health care needs of their patient population(s) upon completion of training.

The standards include requirements applicable to AFC programs and learning sites and have been written in alignment with the standards organization framework used in the general standards that aims to provide clarity of expectations, while maintaining flexibility for innovation.

These standards are intended to be read in conjunction with the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*, as well as the discipline-specific documents for *Trauma General Surgery*. In instances where the indicators reflected in the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* have been modified within this document to reflect a discipline-specific expectation, the indicator as reflected in this document takes precedence.

STANDARDS

DOMAIN: PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

The *Program Organization* domain includes standards focused on the structural and functional aspects of the AFC program, which support and provide structure to meet the general and discipline-specific standards of accreditation for AFC programs.

STANDARD 1: There is an appropriate organizational structure, leadership and administrative personnel to effectively support the AFC program, teachers and trainees.

Refer to Standard 1 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

DOMAIN: EDUCATION PROGRAM

The *Education Program* domain includes standards focused on the planning, design, and delivery of the AFC program, with the overarching outcome to ensure that the AFC program prepares trainees to be competent for practice in the discipline.

STANDARD 2: Trainees are prepared for independent practice in the AFC discipline.

Refer to Standard 2 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators detailed below.

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Element 2.1: The AFC program is designed to facilitate trainees' attainment of the required competencies.

Requirement(s)	Indicator(s)
2.1.1: The AFC program's design and delivery is based on the standards of training for the AFC discipline.	2.1.1.6: The educational experiences include a weekly group activity for the education of trainees, including but not limited to trauma rounds. 2.1.1.7: The educational experiences include ATLS education. 2.1.1.8: The educational experiences include protected time to complete a scholarly research, quality assurance or educational project. 2.1.1.9 (Exemplary): <i>The educational experiences include participation in injury prevention activities regularly.</i> 2.1.1.10 (Exemplary): <i>The educational experiences include an opportunity for trainees to attend an academic meeting related to trauma.</i> 2.1.1.11 (Exemplary): <i>The educational experiences include education in one of the following: Advanced Trauma Operative Management (ATOM), Definitive Surgical Trauma Care (DSTC), Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET), or Emergency Department Echo (EDE 1 and/or 2), or a similar trauma-related educational program.</i>

Element 2.2: There is an effective, organized system of trainee assessment.

Requirement(s)	Indicator(s)
2.2.1: The AFC program has a planned, defined and implemented system of assessment.	2.2.1.4: Trainees maintain a logbook throughout training.

DOMAIN: RESOURCES

The *Resources* domain includes standards focused on ensuring that the AFC program's clinical, physical, technical, financial, and human resources are sufficient for the delivery of the education program and, ultimately, to prepare trainees for practice in the discipline.

STANDARD 3: The delivery and administration of the AFC program is supported by appropriate resources.

Refer to Standard 3 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators detailed below.

Element 3.1: The AFC program has the clinical, physical, technical, and financial resources to provide all trainees with the educational experiences needed to acquire all competencies.

Requirement(s)	Indicator(s)
3.1.2: Clinical and consultative services and facilities are effectively organized and adequate to ensure that trainees attain the required competencies.	3.1.2.5: The AFC program has access to a dedicated trauma team inclusive of multidisciplinary specialists who respond to trauma activation at the learning site. 3.1.2.6: The AFC program has access to an inpatient unit for the care of patients with injuries. 3.1.2.7: The AFC program has access to operating room suites with in-house support for 24-hour access to emergency surgery. 3.1.2.8: The AFC program has access to a critical care unit for the care of patients with severe injuries. 3.1.2.9: The AFC program has access to comprehensive clinical laboratory and diagnostic imaging facilities, with computed tomography (CT) available at all times. 3.1.2.10: Interventional radiology services are available on-site at all times. 3.1.2.11: Supportive facilities include a blood bank with capacity to provide, at all times, the full breadth of blood products required for trauma resuscitation. 3.1.2.12: The AFC program has access to nutritional support services, including but not limited to total parenteral nutrition (TPN). 3.1.2.13: The AFC program has access to social workers, respiratory therapists, and rehabilitation services, including but not limited to occupational therapists and physiotherapists. 3.1.2.14: There is collaboration between the trauma centre and the trauma system to support the pre-hospital and rehabilitation needs of injured patients. 3.1.2.15: The AFC program has access to consultative services in neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, and vascular surgery at all times. 3.1.2.16: The AFC program has access to consultative services in neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, plastic surgery, psychiatry, and urology.

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3.1.3: The AFC program has the necessary financial, physical, and technical resources.

3.1.3.5: The AFC program is situated within an acute care hospital with trauma centre accreditation by an appropriate accrediting body.

3.1.3.6: The acute care hospital in which the AFC program is situated has an in-house call room for trainees.

3.1.3.7: The AFC program has access to dedicated space and equipment in the emergency department for trauma resuscitation.

3.1.3.8: The AFC program has access to appropriate resources, including supervisors, to support AFC trainee completion of a scholarly research, quality assurance, or educational project.

3.1.4: There is appropriate liaison with other programs and teaching services to ensure that trainees experience the breadth of the discipline.

3.1.4.2: The university sponsors accredited programs in Critical Care Medicine, General Surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, and Vascular Surgery.

3.1.4.3 (Exemplary): *The university sponsors accredited programs in Emergency Medicine and Urology.*

Element 3.2: The AFC program has the appropriate human resources to provide all trainees with the required educational experiences.

Requirement(s)

Indicator(s)

3.2.1: Teachers appropriately implement the curriculum, supervise and assess trainees, contribute to the program, and role model effective practice.

3.2.1.2 (modified): The number, credentials, competencies, and scope of practice of the teachers are sufficient to supervise trainees in all learning environments, including when trainees are on-call; at a minimum, two teachers have advanced training in Trauma General Surgery to supervise the clinical and educational program.

3.2.1.4: The AFC director has demonstrated specialty expertise in Trauma General Surgery.

3.2.1.5 (Exemplary): *There is at least one teacher with an ongoing research program related to Trauma General Surgery.*

DOMAIN: LEARNERS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

The *Learners, Teachers, and Administrative Personnel* domain includes standards focused on safety, wellness, and support for learners and teachers.

STANDARD 4: Safety and wellness are promoted throughout the learning environment.

Refer to Standard 4 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

STANDARD 5: Trainees are treated fairly throughout their progression through the AFC program.

Refer to Standard 5 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

STANDARD 6: Teachers effectively deliver and support all aspects of the AFC program.

Refer to Standard 6 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

DOMAIN: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The *Continuous Improvement* domain includes standards focused on ensuring a systematic approach to the evaluation and improvement of the AFC program.

STANDARD 7: There is continuous improvement of the educational experiences to improve the AFC program and ensure trainees are prepared for independent practice in the discipline.

Refer to Standard 7 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

Drafted – Area of Focused Competence discipline committee and Office of Specialty Education
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