



Setting up a LapPass[®] course

This document aims to guide you in setting up your own LapPass course. If there is anything that is unclear, or you would like to ask, please feel free to email the LapPass team at [ALSGBI \(grace.bennett@doctors.org.uk\)](mailto:grace.bennett@doctors.org.uk).

Aims of LapPass

- To improve laparoscopic skills
- Attempt to pass as many LapPass components as possible
- To improve candidate's CV, as LapPass is a recognized badge of proficiency
- To accelerate trainee's operative skills and therefore opportunities in the workplace, working towards career progression
- For candidates to show their commitment to surgery

General Structure

- Prior to the course, candidates are given a pre-reading document, and usually a course structure so they know what to expect on the day
- Half a day of teaching and half a day of assessments
- Candidates given the opportunity to come back again for assessment at a reduced fee
- Candidates who pass all components are given a LapPass passport
- Candidates are expected to do approximately 50 hours of practice - this is included in the candidates' pre-reading document

What do you need to set up a face-to-face LapPass course?

- Willing volunteers
 - to help organize and run the day
 - set up the equipment
 - promote the course
 - manage the finances
 - speak to potential sponsors
 - make and monitor feedback forms
 - make attendance certificates

- Assessors
<https://www.alsgbi.org/lappass/>
- A venue
- Stacks and instruments
 - These are provided for MASNoW by Karl Storz for free, as long as their Representative can attend the day and have a slot at some point to talk about new equipment/ products
- Consumables
 - Ideally, Inovus LapPass kits, and you will need:
 - 1x board per station
 - 3x sticks for polos per station
 - 3x polos per station
 - 1x sting per station
 - Penrose drains – approx. 5 per person
 - Braided ties (for Roeder knot) – approx. 9 per person
 - Cutting skins – approx. 5 per person
 - If you are cost saving and don't have this, these are alternatives:
 - Leather sponges
 - Waxed string
 - Polo mints
 - Cocktail sticks
 - Gloves
 - Pins
 - Marker pen and template for marking on gloves
 - Pens/ pencils
 - Suture material – this is by far the most expensive material, and MASNoW have been lucky enough to get this for free from Ethicon, so it's worth asking big companies – you will need approx. 5 per person
- Food for candidates – this is dependent on cost etc, but MASNoW provide a buffet breakfast, snacks, lunch and drinks throughout the day
- The documents
 - Pre reading materials – send out before
<https://www.alsgbi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/FINAL-LapPass-pre-reading-without-course-details.pdf>
 - Assessment sheets
<https://www.alsgbi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/LapPass-assessment-forms-.pdf>
 - LapPass passports
Tasks 1-4: <https://www.alsgbi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/LapPass-Skills-Form-for-Web.pdf>
Task 5 (camera holding): <https://www.alsgbi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Camera-Holding-Skills-Form-for-web.pdf>

Managing cost

Depending on what you can get for free, and what you need to pay for, costs will vary wildly from region to region. For example, some venues will be expensive but include food, or education centres at hospitals may be free. Occasionally, sponsors (e.g. Storz, Ethicon etc) will give sums of money or give consumables so saving costs there; but these may need to be purchased.

Therefore, it is difficult to give an exact amount that candidates should be charged for attendance. However, there should be a discount for attendees who are ALSGBI members to encourage people to sign up to ALSGBI. This can be discussed with Jeremy Williams (jwilliams@alsgbi.org).

A treasurer should ideally be appointed, and costs/ fees can be calculated for each individual region as appropriate.

ALSGBI do have a grant that can be applied for (£1000) to help towards costs; and corporations can be approached for sponsorship in return for using their logo or allowing them to attend. The same goes for getting stacks and instruments.

Who can assess?

Currently the agreement with ALSGBI is that assessors must be registrars or consultants who are ALSGBI members and have done Train the Trainer.

There is a list on the ALSGBI website of all those who can assess LapPass.

Ideally there should be a 2:1 ratio of candidates to assessors.

What will the day look like?

Introduction – 10 mins

Videos and faculty demonstrations – 30 mins

Task practice (tasks 1-3) – 90 mins, with the opportunity for teaching in ratio of 2:1 candidates to faculty

Refreshments – 30 mins Task practice (task 4) – 60 mins, with the opportunity for teaching in ratio of 3:1 candidates to faculty

Lunch – 60 mins

Assessment – 120 mins Alongside free practice of tasks 1-4 With the opportunity for teaching in ratio of 3:1 candidates to faculty

Closure of the programme

What do the tasks involve?

Task 1 – GRASPING AND MANIPULATION – 4 minutes

Moving 3 polo mints between 3 posts.

1. Floor to post using your left hand only
2. Moving from post 1 to 2 using right hand only with rotation of the polo
3. Moving from post 2 to 3 transferring from one hand to another in mid-air
4. Post 3 to the floor passing the mint along the string without touching the floor

Task 2 – TYING EXTRACORPOREAL ROEDER KNOTS AND PLACING THEM TO SIMULATE AN APPENDICECTOMY – 8 minutes

A partially inflated glove or Penrose drain with lines for suture placement and to demark the cutting point

1. Create and place 3 Roeder knots; two proximal and one distal
2. Divide the finger (appendix) between the placed knots

Task 3 – CUTTING AND ACCURATE DISC – 3 minutes

Cutting a disc in a glove without breaching the dotted lines or the back wall

Task 4 – SUTURING/ CREATING SURGICAL KNOTS UNDER SLIGHT TENSION – 6 minutes

Place 2 sutures drawing 2 dots (pre-drawn) together securely under tension; must be within the dotted area Accepted knots: Szabo, reef knot, surgeons' knot

Task 5 – CAMERA HOLDING SKILLS

You are expected to be able to hold a camera with good anticipation of the next steps, and assist the primary surgeon in their task.

This needs signing off on 10 different occasions and is usually done outside of the LapPass course.

Resources

LapPass Introduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Air67UtorRw>

ALSGBI – How to make your own box trainer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AB7zVuglbf0>

Aberdeen Regional Ambassadors – How to make your own box trainer

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Uu5bnDoPBNysANsnSAHrfJYDwP0PRgsP3iHwoV0IEA4/edit>