



Royal College
of Surgeons
of England

ADVANCING SURGICAL CARE

Specialty Skills in Emergency Surgery and Trauma

2nd edition

Course programme

Day 1

Time	Session
0830 – 0900	Registration and refreshments
0900 – 0930	Introduction Learning outcomes Emergency surgery resuscitation
0930 – 1015	The acute surgical patient 1 Appendicitis Perforated duodenal ulcer Small bowel obstruction
1015 – 1030	Refreshments
1030 – 1230	Practical: peritonitis Introduction to working with animal tissue Appendicitis and converting to open – muscle splitting incision Laparotomy Upper GI perforation and oversew Small bowel obstruction and resection with anastomosis
1230 – 1300	Lunch
1300 – 1400	The acute surgical patient 2 Large bowel obstruction Volvulus/pseudo-obstruction Diverticulitis Lower GI bleed
1400 – 1600	Practical: vascular Proximal and distal control Arteriotomy Embolectomy and arterial repair Vein patch Compartment syndrome and fasciotomy
1600 – 1615	Refreshments
1615 – 1700	The acute surgical patient 3 Gallstones Pancreatitis Boerhaave's syndrome
1700 – 1715	Wrap up

Day 2



Time	Session	Faculty lead
0845 – 0900	Registration and refreshments	
0900 – 1000	Damage control resuscitation & trauma laparotomy	
1000 – 1015	Refreshments	
1015 – 1215	Practical: damage control Trauma laparotomy Haemorrhage control Liver injury Splenic trauma DCS bowel resection Temporary abdominal dressing Prosection demonstration (where available)	
1215 – 1300	Lunch	
1300 – 1345	Introduction to trauma thoracotomy	
1345 – 1545	Practical: thoracotomy Antero-lateral thoracotomy Clamshell thoracotomy Tractotomy Hilar clamp Management of cardiac penetrating injury Prosection demonstration (where available)	
1545 – 1600	Refreshments	
1600 – 1630	Non-technical skills Prioritising tasks Common exam scenarios	
1630 – 1645	Wrap up Discussion and feedback; work based assessments (where available)	