

E-BLUS looks beyond Europe in 2015

EAU's standardised basic laparoscopy training programme gains worldwide popularity



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The first European Training in Basic Laparoscopic Urological Skills (E-BLUS) was organised for final-year European residents in 2011, during the 9th European Urology Residents Education Programme (EUREP) in Prague.

The European School of Urology and EAU Section for Uro-Technology (ESUT) designed the programme to standardise basic laparoscopic training in Europe. The course continued to be offered at annual EAU congresses and EUREP.

The E-BLUS programme includes an online theoretical laparoscopy course and a four-step Hands-on training (HOT) session. These basic skills are then tested after the training in a validated exam. After the success of several pilot courses at various national congresses, the E-BLUS rapidly gained attention from young urologists and particularly residents in training.

These first very positive impressions have demonstrated the need for such a complete basic laparoscopy training programme which includes a theoretical part as well as a solid training part. The online theoretical part with basic laparoscopic knowledge is easy to understand and the level of the trainees can be checked with the online exam before starting with the hands-on training part. The interest was very high and EAU decided to also offer this first-rate programme to urologists

worldwide. The ESU/ESUT Training & Research Group has led the organisation, hand-in-hand with the EAU's central office, which supported this project with top priority.

This optimal teamwork paid off: in 2015, E-BLUS is part of 24 national and international congresses and laparoscopy courses. In this way, trainees get the chance to be able to work with experienced international tutors and take a one-to-one training course with personal training advice at the end. The ESU/ESUT Training & Research Group members briefed the local tutors and supervised the quality of the conducted exam and the maintenance of suitable standards on behalf of the EAU.



One-on-one guidance for trainees in Bydgoszcz

The E-BLUS exam, which is an integral part of E-BLUS, became the next complementary element of teaching system and the exam has been offered in all suitable centres. The trainees have taken E-BLUS exam and trained hard for this unique certificate which is the only one on the world to be awarded following a strict, formal exam.

With this programme, the EAU has improved laparoscopic skills across the world, from Jakarta in the East, Vladivostok in the North, London in the West and Khartoum in the South. This is a result of the EAU's three-continent Education & Cooperation effort.



Laparoscopy workshop in St. Luke's Hospital in Bydgoszcz, Poland, 13-14 April 2015.

In addition to a laparoscopy training programme, E-BLUS has also shown to be a scientific way to keep in touch with urologists worldwide. Sharing the knowledge and experience with all the colleagues and friends was also a unique experience for us. I am sure that we will improve this project in the next years and will reach more and more urologists in all directions.

Our aim as ESU/ESUT Training & Research Group is to standardise and improve the training programmes in all aspects. I think these contacts will provide us with more innovation and give us the courage to develop and share the next steps of our laparoscopy training programme.



Urooncology Symposium of the Indonesian Urology Association in Jakarta, 29 April - 2 May, 2015

Upcoming E-BLUS Events

3-9 September 2015, Czech Republic (Prague)
13th EUREP

8-10 September 2015, Russia (Vladivostok)
International Laparoscopy Applied Course (ESUT)

24-26 September 2015, Romania (Cluj)
4th Laparoscopic Urology Course CLERU (ESUT)

24-27 September 2015, Portugal (Braga)
Portuguese Association of Urology Congress

1-4 October 2015, United Kingdom (London)
33rd World Congress of Endourology and SWL (WCE 2015)

2-4 October 2015, Hungary (Budapest)
EAU 15th Central European Meeting

20-22 October 2015, Turkey (Izmir)
Annual Turkish Urology Congress

23-24 October 2015, Turkey (Izmir)
World Videourology Congress (ESUT)

3-6 November 2015, Jordan (Amman)
12th Annual Congress of the Arab Association of Urology

6-8 November 2015, Turkey (Antalya)
EAU 11th South Eastern European Meeting (SEEM) (ESUT)

30 November - 4 December 2015, Egypt (Cairo)
50th Egyptian Urological Association (EUA) congress (ESUT)

11-15 March 2016, Germany (Munich)
31st Annual EAU Congress



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