

## **Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES)**

**Goal:** The SAGES Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery™ (FES) program is a comprehensive educational and assessment tool designed to teach and evaluate the fundamental knowledge, clinical judgment and technical skills required in the performance of basic gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopic surgery (endoscopy). The goal is to provide participants with an opportunity to learn the fundamentals of endoscopic surgery in a consistent, scientifically accepted format, and to test cognitive and technical skills – all with the goal of improving the quality of patient care.

### **Skills Training:**

- 2 Tuesday skills sessions per year will be dedicated to instruction and mentored practice on the Symbionix simulator for PGY 1-3s

### **Requirement:**

- *PGY 3s are required to complete and pass this exam prior to starting the endoscopy rotation*
- It is advised that PD residents pass FES during their PD years
- See testing policy below

### **FES Exam:**

- Web-based multiple choice exam
- Technical skills component on the Symbionix virtual reality simulator

### **PREPARATION TIPS:**

Step 1: View the following SAGES Webinar from 59:50 to 1:23:00 on the following video so you know what the skills exam will look like.

<http://www.sages.org/video/fundamentals-endoscopic-surgery-passing-exam/>

Step 2: "GI Endoscopy Fundamental Skills" on Symbionix simulator-- then click on "Curriculum description" to get to tasks. These tasks are Tasks 1-7, Basic Scope Manipulation, Endoscopic Navigation, Mucosal Evaluation, and Retroflexion, and are the closest to the skills/tasks that are on the actual exam. If you are having trouble "Filling the Triangle" with blue to start these tasks, make sure the blue telescoping pull out section on the left of the machine is fully pulled out.

Step 3: Read the FES online study guide materials to prepare for the written portion.

Step 4: Practice some colonoscopy modules to practice de-looping since this task is on the FES exam but is not part of the "Gi Endoscopy Fundamental Skills"

**LINK:** <http://www.fesprogram.org/>

This policy applies to: The General Surgery Training Program

Last Approval Date: October 2018

Name of Policy: FES Testing Effective

Date: February 1, 2019

Our intent for the FES testing requirement is to have all categorical residents tested by the end of their 3rd year. Residents are strongly encouraged to test during their PD years; testing must be done prior to the endoscopy rotation and done no later than their 3rd year of training. The GSEC has built in testing times for residents. The proctors will offer available dates and times to residents and they will be first come, first serve. If a resident does not select a date and time, the proctors will assign one. Residents must make their appointments, and we cannot tolerate any schedule changes. We recognize the multiple commitments that the residents have but because of the extensive resources required for FLS and FES programs and because these tests are high stakes exams required for ABS certification, we will be insistent on the residents making these appointments. The only exception is if you have to miss work for a personal or family emergency. A scheduled case in the OR or a busy clinic is not a reason to miss your exam. If an emergency occurs, Anita Hagan must be contacted. The residency program pays for the initial testing voucher (\$295). If a resident fails the exam, they are responsible for paying for the cost of a retake voucher (\$125). Passing FES is a requirement in order to advance to the PGY4 year. If a resident fails their first attempt, they must schedule a practice session with Drs. Lau or Korndorffer prior to taking their retake exam.