

27.8.24

Dear colleagues

We hope you are well. We will conduct a training study at ORSI Academy, Proefhoevestraat 12, 9090 Melle, Belgium, on Saturday, October 12th, 2024, from 09:00 to 14:00 and 14.00 to 18:00hrs.

Complications associated with anastomosis have devastating consequences on the patient's clinical, functional, and oncological outcomes. Circular stapling is commonly performed in left-sided colorectal anastomosis. Studies have shown knowledge gaps in many surgeons' understanding of the safe and effective use of staplers in colorectal surgery.

A working group (a collaboration between the University of Leuven in Belgium and ORSI Academy in Belgium) has developed a training programme for safe training and effective use of circular stapling anastomosis in left-sided colorectal anastomosis.

The project's next stage involves comparing a group of trainees (12) trained using the new training methodology to a group of trainees (12) trained by a traditional method.

We are looking for trainees at all levels (24). One group (12) will be trained using the new methodology, and another group will be trained with the traditional method of performing circular stapling anastomosis in a pig intestine model. Subsequently, these trainees will be assessed.

The working group appreciates the valuable time the participants spent participating in this training study. When you participate in this study, you will:

- Learn to use both linear and circular staplers
- Be awarded a certificate of attendance for the stapling study
- You will have an opportunity to practise virtual reality simulation in the Medtronic Hugo robotic platform at ORSI
- Network with your colleagues

For further information, don't hesitate to contact Samson Tou at samsontou@aol.com.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Sam, Albert, Tony