

# Training, Reporting, and Practice in Bariatric Surgery

Honorary Section Editor - Nagammapudur S. Balaji

Over the past two decades the field of bariatric and metabolic surgery has seen significant advances in the aspects of technical innovations and in understanding of the physiological basis of disease and how different treatment work.

Parallel to the above developments, we have witnessed the formation and establishment of professional organizations around the world in the field of Bariatric and metabolic surgery. They have lead the way in making an attempt to set standards of practice and form guidelines for training and research which serve as a quality control/improvement check posts to ensure safety and quality of care to patients. The ASMBS and IFSO have both individually and collaboratively spearheaded these initiatives globally. “Centre of excellence” programs and pre-requisites for accreditation to centres worldwide have been developed and evolved over the past decade. The BOMSS in the UK has been equally active and contributory in the development of practice and training guidelines that are easily extendable beyond the UK.

Emergence of national and organizational registries from across continents has shed light on the epidemiology and prevalence of different surgical approaches and their results on the global epidemic of Obesity and the associated metabolic syndrome.

Over the same period hand locked with the innovations and advances mentioned above, the medicolegal aspects of surgical treatment of obesity and the metabolic syndrome has also been of increasing importance which is not surprising at all.

Hence it was felt appropriate that a dedicated section be allocated to the non-clinical aspects of equal importance.

Mr Hewin in his chapter has given a broad overview of the training guidelines that have been adopted in the UK, USA and Europe based on the recommendations from the BOMSS, ASMBS and IFSO. He also highlights the facilities, opportunities and the available methods for training for trainees to pursue while embarking on a career in the specialty.

Dr Mellisas and his team have summarized the guidelines, and requirements for a centre of excellence program accreditation from the IFSO that is globally recognized with specific focus in Europe – (EAC – BS) (European Accreditation council) for Bariatric surgery.

Dr Saber and Dr Hutcher detail the requirements for the establishment and accreditation to obtaining recognition as a centre of excellence based on the previous Surgical research corporation (SRC) and ASMBS initiative and the recently joint initiative from the ASMBS and American College of surgeons (ACS) – MBSAQIP (Metabolic and Bariatric surgery accreditation and quality improvement program).

Mr. Welbourn and Mr. Singhal with their experience in the establishment of the NBSR registry in the UK have highlighted the importance, information gained and limitations of large registries in the UK, USA and Europe.

Mr. Reddy and Mr. Khan who have an extensive background in medical law explore the medicolegal aspects to which the bariatric surgeon is increasingly faced. They highlight the current and potential future medicolegal issues with some advice on avoiding these pitfalls.

We profoundly thank all the contributors for their expertise and time spent to building this very important non-clinical surgical section for the bariatric surgeon.