

## World Endoscopy Organization Africa-India Endoscopy Training Program Information Sheet and Application Form

### Introduction

The WEO African Outreach Committee aims to improve endoscopy training access to key participants in its training centers in Africa. While faculty visits and training courses are successful, they are limited by duration and frequency of visits, case numbers, and equipment failure. To improve consistent training, endoscopists need regular high-volume hands-on training by experts.

This program seeks to facilitate access to high-volume, high-quality endoscopy training to doctors from Africa by expert centers in India. India offers the advantage of affordable living costs and more opportunity for hands-on work within an English-speaking context, that make it an attractive option compared with similar facilities in Europe or elsewhere. Additionally, the key centers are well-known in the WEO context, and their expertise and training experience is well-recognized.

It is expected that trainees will gain manual skills competence to perform the procedures autonomously. However, further education will be required to develop the cognitive skills required to offer the procedures safely and consistently to patients.

### Basic endoscopy skills course

Given the disease burden in Africa, there is a large and growing demand for basic diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy. High volume endoscopy centers can offer upskilling in upper GI endoscopy and colonoscopy in a relatively short period of time.

Courses of **1-month** duration can provide the basics necessary to master diagnostic gastroscopy and colonoscopy. It is likely that some very basic therapeutic procedures may be included such as variceal band ligation, variceal glue injection and cold-snare polypectomy, with more complex therapeutics requiring more time depending on the trainee's level of prior competence.

It is expected the trainee will perform independently a minimum of 50 gastroscopies and 50 colonoscopies during training.

### Advanced endoscopy skills courses

These will be tailor-made depending on the needs of the trainee and institute, and the prior skills experience of the trainee. The trainee may prefer to undertake a longer training period to master several techniques or a shorter training period to focus on a specific skill. It is expected that to learn specialized advanced procedures, a minimum of **3-months** training duration will likely be required, possibly with a second 3-month training period within a year. Most advanced endoscopy centers perform sufficient volumes of procedures to be able to offer a range of training options in EUS, ERCP and other advanced interventional endoscopic procedures.

### Eligibility

- You must be a medical doctor who is enrolled in, or who has completed a training program in gastroenterology or surgery or an equivalent specialization.
- You must be affiliated to one of the recognized WEO training centers in Africa.
- You must be able to support yourself financially for the duration of the training.
- You must demonstrate strong verbal and written communication skills in English.

- You must have the written support of your institution to undergo training and you must have approved leave for the duration.
- For basic skills training, you must be able to perform upper GI endoscopies and colonoscopies at a basic level and have documented procedure logs with a minimum of 20 of each procedure documented. Certification by Head of Unit is required.
- For advanced skills training, you must be able to perform basic upper and lower GI endoscopy with a high degree of skill as evidenced by training logs with more than 100 of each procedure logged. Certification by Head of Unit is required.
- You must be eligible for travel to India, meeting visa and health requirements.
- You must submit the Application Form along with a Letter of Interest, CV (*max.2 pages*), passport-sized photo, supporting documents and details of two referees.
- You will be assessed by a WEO African Outreach Committee member prior to taking up the training for suitability and to match you to an appropriate training facility.
- By applying, you agree to being named on the WEO website and promotional material.

### **Responsibilities**

*Trainee:* The trainee undertakes to present to the training center on the agreed days, on time, and prepared. The trainee will endeavor to work diligently under supervision, respecting the patient, supervisor, other staff, and the hospital. The trainee is encouraged to participate fully in the center to gain the best experience in all aspects of training: manual and cognitive skills, research and social aspects.

The trainee will be required to submit to WEO a progress questionnaire prior to commencing training, at the completion of training, and again at 12 months.

*Trainee's institution:* The home institution of the trainee undertakes to provide the trainee with time to undertake the training and employment on return. The institution will provide the necessary infrastructure and equipment and maintenance and staff to facilitate the ongoing provision of the endoscopy procedures that the trainee is learning.

*Teaching Center:* The Teaching Center undertakes to provide practical training to the trainee under appropriate supervision. Risks to the trainee should be minimized with procedures performed within the developing skill set of the trainee, and always with primary consideration of patient welfare. The Teaching Center will provide to the trainee written evidence that training has been performed. The Teaching Center will be required to submit to WEO an assessment questionnaire at the completion of training for each trainee.

*WEO:* WEO undertakes to assess the trainees and the centers for suitability and match them accordingly. WEO will receive and bequeath training grants. WEO will provide the questionnaires to the trainees and the training centers. WEO will provide each trainee with a certificate of completion of training once satisfactory Trainer evaluations are submitted.

### **Evaluation of the program**

The Program will be evaluated by both trainees and trainers. A questionnaire will be applied to the trainees on uptake, at the completion of the training, and again in 12 months. This will be a

standardized questionnaire online assessing knowledge, confidence, competence, number of procedures performed, outcomes.

The trainers will evaluate each trainee and be asked to participate in an annual survey to evaluate the program and offer suggestions to improve it.

WEO home sites in Africa will also be assessed on an ongoing basis to see if there has been improvement in endoscopy parameters: volume, outcomes, trainees.

These surveys will be evaluated on an on-going basis, initially for quality control to pick up any issues and modify the program, but also long-term to determine if investment in education in this way is helpful for centers and in achieving the aims of the program.

The program will undergo full evaluation at 5 years.

### Costs (all amounts in USD)

Below is an estimate of costs of training.

Item	Estimated cost 1 month	Estimate cost 3 months
Flights for candidates	1000	1000
Accommodation/living expenses	200	600
WEO teaching preparation fee	500	900
WEO administration fee	150	450
Indian institution training fee	300	900
<b>Total per candidate</b>	<b>2150</b>	<b>3850</b>

Additionally, visa and travel requirements such as health insurance and vaccinations will be the responsibility of the candidates and their home institutions.

WEO is endeavoring to obtain sponsorship to assist with the fees of the training. The sponsorship could cover up to \$1850 of the monthly cost, or \$3000 of the 3-monthly cost. Self-funded candidates will need to cover all the above expenses. Fees will be payable on acceptance of the offer of training.

## Application form (in English)

Applicant details	Name:		Date of Birth:		
	Address:		Country:		
	Phone number:				
	Email:				
Highest qualification:	Qualification				
	Year				
	Institute				
Medical degree:	Degree				
	Year				
	Institute				
Clinical training:	Current institute, location				
	Completed training program	<input type="checkbox"/> Internal medicine, <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery, <input type="checkbox"/> None			
	Current training program	<input type="checkbox"/> Internal medicine, <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery, <input type="checkbox"/> None			
	Level in training e.g. Year 3 of year program				
Endoscopy experience:	No. of gastroscopies performed independently:				
	No. of colonoscopies performed independently:				
	Any therapeutic/advanced endoscopy? Specify.				
Have you had any endoscopy training outside your hospital? Provide course name, place, year, duration.					
In what endoscopy training program are you interested?		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 month Basic Endoscopy			
		3 months Advanced Endoscopy <input type="checkbox"/> EUS, <input type="checkbox"/> ERCP, <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):			
Do you have a preferred training institute in India? (Your preference will be considered, but not guaranteed.)		<input type="checkbox"/> AIG (Hyderabad) <input type="checkbox"/> IDL Care (Mumbai) <input type="checkbox"/> Medanta Hospital (New Delhi) <input type="checkbox"/> Midas Hospital (Nagpur) <input type="checkbox"/> Any center			

Funding		<input type="checkbox"/> I have my own funding. <input type="checkbox"/> I will require a scholarship from WEO.	
Any other information e.g. Dates you are available.			
Contact details Endoscopy Referee 1	Name:		
	Position:		
	Institute:		
	Email address:		
Contact details Endoscopy Referee 2	Name:		
	Position:		
	Institute:		
	Email address:		
Approval of Division Head	Name:		
	Position:		
	Institute:		
	Email address:		
	Signature: <i>e-signature and scan accepted</i>		Date:
Approval of Institute Head	Name:		
	Position:		
	Institute:		
	Email address:		
	Signature: <i>e-signature and scan accepted</i>		Date:
Statement of intent	I agree to apply for the WEO Africa-India Endoscopy training fellowship. I will meet my obligations as a trainee as required by the program. I can financially support myself for the duration of the training. I will submit my evaluations as required by the program. I agree to the use of my name and photos in promotional materials by WEO. I have read and agreed to WEO's <a href="#">Privacy Policy</a> .		
	Applicant's Signature: <i>e-signature and scan accepted</i>		Date:

Document check list

- Application form complete and signed.
- CV
- Photo
- Gastroscopy competency document
- Colonoscopy competency document
- Names of 2 endoscopy referees
- Signatures of Division Head
- Signature of Institute Head

**Office use only**

Date application received	
Date approved by WEO	
Date Funding approved	
Approved by Training Center	