

Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)

List of EPAs for Orthopaedic Surgery

EPA Title	EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit
<u>EPA 1: Managing Orthopaedic Patients in the Ward</u>	Level 4
<u>EPA 2: Running Emergency Orthopaedics Operating Lists</u>	Level 4
<u>EPA 3: Performing Common Elective Operations</u>	Level 4
<u>EPA 4: Managing Orthopaedic Patients in an Outpatient setting</u>	Level 4
<u>EPA 5: Managing Acute Emergency Admissions when On Call</u>	Level 4

Entrustment Scale

Entrustment Level	Description
Level 1	Be present and observe, but no permission to enact EPA
Level 2	Practice EPA with direct (pro-active) supervision
Level 3	Practice EPA with indirect (re-active) supervision
Level 4	Unsupervised practice allowed (distant oversight)
Level 5	May provide supervision to junior learners

EPA 1: Managing Orthopaedic Patients in the Ward

[Click here to return to the list of titles](#)

Title	Managing Orthopaedic Patients in the Ward
Specifications and limitations	This EPA contains the following elements: • Lead the morning and exit ward rounds • Make a full assessment of patients by taking a structured history and by performing a focused clinical examination • Request, interpret and discuss appropriate investigations to synthesise findings into an overall impression, management plan and diagnosis • Identify when the clinical course is progressing as expected and when medical or surgical complications are developing, and recognise when operative intervention or re-intervention is required and ensure this is carried out • Manage complications safely, requesting help from colleagues where required • Identify and initially manage co-morbidity and medical complications, referring on to other specialties as appropriate • Identify when further therapeutic manoeuvres are not in the patient's best interests, initiate palliative care, refer for specialist advice as required, and discuss plans with the patient and their family • Summarise important points at the end of the ward rounds and ensure all members of the team understand the management plans and their roles within them • Give appropriate advice for discharge documentation and follow-up • Ensure that all documentation (including results of investigations) will be available when required and interpret them appropriately • Give and receive appropriate handover • Perform ward-based procedures
	Limitations: • This EPA excludes ICU patients • This EPA excludes paediatric patients
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4

EPA 2: Running Emergency Orthopaedics Operating Lists

[Click here to return to the list of titles](#)

Title	Running Emergency Orthopaedics Operating Lists
Specifications and limitations	This EPA contains the following elements: • Assess patient's medical and pre-morbid conditions • Select patients for conservative and operative treatment plans as appropriate, explaining these to the patient, and carrying them out: ◦ Identify and prepare a patient for emergency orthopaedic operative procedures including but not limited to those involving bony and soft tissues ◦ Take consent in the emergency situation • Consider urgency and potential for deterioration, in advocating for the timely execution of a procedure or therapy, ◦ Organise, prioritise and coordinate a list of emergency operative procedures • Carries out the operative procedures to the required level for the phase of training as described in the specialty syllabus • Uses sound judgement to adapt operative strategy to take account of pathological findings and any changes in clinical condition • Perform the emergency procedure in a technically safe manner (see Table 1 for list of critical procedures), using time efficiently • Make appropriate peri- and post-operative management plans in conjunction with anaesthetic colleagues • Deliver ongoing post-operative surgical care in ward and critical care settings, recognising and appropriately managing medical and surgical complications, and referring for specialist care when necessary
	Limitations: This EPA excludes elective surgeries and paediatric patients
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4 for procedures listed in Table 1

Table 1: List of emergency Orthopaedic procedures

<u>Procedures</u>
Non-trauma related
Wound debridement, I&D, saucerisation of abscesses, minor amputation
Arthrotomy for septic arthritis
Major amputation
Trauma related
Manipulation and reduction
External fixation of lower limb
Hip fracture fixation
Hip hemiarthroplasty
Intramedullary nailing of long bone fracture
Forearm fracture fixation
Ankle fracture fixation
Hand injury management e.g., fingertip, deep laceration

EPA 3: Performing Common Elective Operations

[Click here to return to the list of titles](#)

Title	EPA 3. Performing Common Elective Operations
Specifications and limitations	This EPA contains the following elements: • Review the operating list, accounting for case mix, skill mix, operating time, clinical priorities, and patient co-morbidity • Ensure the “Time-Out” / safety checklist (or equivalent) is completed for each patient • Understand when prophylactic antibiotics should be prescribed and follow local protocol • Synthesise the patient’s surgical condition, the technical details of the operation, comorbidities, and medication into an appropriate operative plan for the patient • Carry out and/or assist the operative procedures to the required level for the phase of training, using time efficiently • Use judgement to adapt operative strategy to take account of pathological findings and any changes in clinical condition • Demonstrate application of knowledge and non-technical skills in the operating theatre, including situation awareness, decision-making, communication, leadership, and teamwork • Write a full operation note for each patient, ensuring inclusion of all post-operative instructions • Review all patients post-operatively Limitations: This EPA excludes emergency surgeries and paediatric patients
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4 for the following procedures: • Upper limb fracture fixation including radius, ulna and humerus • Carpal tunnel release • Femoral and tibial-fracture operative treatment • Ankle fracture fixation • Foot and ankle reconstructive procedures • Hip fracture fixation / arthroplasty • Total hip arthroplasty (include total and bipolar) • Total knee arthroplasty • Knee arthroscopy • ACL reconstruction • Shoulder arthroscopy Level 4 as <u>first assistant</u> for the following procedures: • Proximal humerus fracture • Knee peri-articular fracture fixation • Spine decompression / fusion (cervical / lumbar)

EPA 4: Managing Orthopaedic Patients in an Outpatient Setting

[Click here to return to the list of titles](#)

Title	EPA 4. Managing Orthopaedic Patients in an Outpatient Setting
Specifications and limitations	1) Orthopaedic outpatient clinics refer to the following: • Adult reconstruction / Hip and knee • Foot and ankle • Hand • Shoulder and elbow / Sports • Spine • Trauma / General • Musculoskeletal Oncology 2) This EPA contains the following elements: • Gather information: take history, perform physical examination • Generate diagnosis • Prioritise and order relevant investigations, and interpret investigations • Formulate management plan, adjust management plan as needed • Counsel patient, obtain informed consent for procedure • Escalate to a senior surgeon appropriately • Make appropriate referrals to other specialties and/or allied health • Book operative cases with appropriate urgency, duration, and equipment and patient preparation
	Limitations: This EPA excludes paediatric patients
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4

EPA 5: Managing Acute Emergency Admissions When On Call

[Click here to return to the list of titles](#)

Title	Managing Acute Emergency Admissions When On Call
Specifications and limitations	This EPA contains the following elements: • Identify and manage acutely unwell patients who require immediate attention • Deliver resuscitative treatment and initial management • Ensure sepsis is recognised and treated in compliance with protocol • Make a full assessment of patients by taking a structured history and by performing a focused clinical examination • Request, interpret and discuss appropriate investigations to synthesise findings into an overall impression, management plan and diagnosis • Identify when the clinical course is progressing as expected and when medical or surgical complications are developing • Recognise when operative intervention or re-intervention is required and ensure this is carried out • Manage complications safely, requesting help from colleagues where required • Identify and initially manage co-morbidity and medical complications, referring on to other specialties as appropriate • Ensure that all documentation (including results of investigations) will be available when required and interpret them appropriately • Give and receive appropriate handover • Perform ward-based procedures • Reply blue aka referral letters
	Limitations: • This EPA excludes ICU patients • This EPA excludes paediatric patients
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4