

International Training Program in Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,
Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital
Mahidol University

1. COURSE TITLE

International Training in Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery

2. CERTIFICATION

Certificate of Three-month International Training in Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery

3. RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION

Division of Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,
 Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University

4. RATIONALE FOR PROGRAM INITIATION

In the present century, gynecologic endoscopic surgery has been developed and has progressed successfully with promising results. Therefore, it is universally acceptable among patients and doctors.

The Division of Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University has been the pioneer in the field of gynecologic endoscopy in Thailand since 2000. We are recognized by national and international training institutions as the authoritative training center with international collaboration in terms of technology transfer, physician training and surgical instrument support. Currently, with our excellent professional qualifications, we are the most competent institution to provide various training programs in the academic arena of gynecologic endoscopic surgery, in collaboration with the prestigious institution of the Thai-German Multidisciplinary Endoscopic Training Center.

The Thai-German Multidisciplinary Endoscopic Training Center has established many short and medium postgraduate training programs, encompassing the basics and the advances in gynecologic endoscopic surgery for domestic gynecologists and nurses as well as overseas doctors. The regular five-day domestic training programs are organized every three months, and the international training programs take place twice a year. Most of the training programs are run by our in-house experts and those from international institutes from Germany, Japan, Taiwan, Australia and the United States of America. Our training programs are highly regarded by Thai and foreign gynecologists. The Thai-German Multidisciplinary Endoscopic Training Center has also established syllabuses for our residency training programs and the one-year fellowship training program for Thai gynecologists. Every program is beneficial and in great demand among Thai and foreign trainees. To meet the needs of international trainees and to establish our center as a leading authority on gynecologist training in South East Asia, it is deemed valid to set up a new fellowship training program for international gynecologists. The objective of this international training program is to provide knowledge of and practical skills in endoscopic surgery to overseas gynecologists. This international training program will be most valuable to international gynecologists especially those are working in Thailand and neighboring countries.

5. OBJECTIVES

The major objectives of this international training program are as follows:

1. Provide knowledge and acquaintance with the instrumentation and endoscopes (Laparoscopes and Hysteroscopes);
2. Provide basic and advanced knowledge of anatomy, physiology and anesthesiology;
3. Provide basic and advanced theories on modern laparoscopic diagnosis and surgery;
4. Provide trainees with skills and great competency in endoscopic diagnosis and surgery (Laparoscopic and Hysteroscopic surgery) under international ethical components;
5. Provide experience in prevention, detection and correction of complications relating to endoscopic surgery;
6. Provide international friendship forces and international links for the present and the future among gynecologists, both domestic and overseas.

6. CURRICULUM OF THE FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

The curriculum is set up in accordance with the training program of the International Society of Gynecologic Endoscopists (ISGE) and the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL)-Advancing Minimally Invasive Gynecology Worldwide. This curriculum consists of three levels.

Level I: To provide basic knowledge of and acquaintance with pelvic anatomy

A. Pelvic findings and technical limits

1. Normal anatomy
2. No mass
3. Manipulation of pelvic viscera
4. No retroperitoneal dissection
5. No dissection of vascular tissues

B. Procedures and their indications

1. Diagnosis
2. Sterilization
 - a) Bipolar
 - b) Clips
 - c) Ring
3. Lysis of avascular adhesions

C. Anatomy

Abdominal walls
Major retroperitoneal vessels
Surface and viscera of pelvis

Surface and viscera of upper
abdominal cavity

Nerves of upper and lower extremities

D. Physiology

Pneumoperitoneum
Trendelenburg

E. Biophysics

Electrosurgery

F. Ancillary instrumentation and technology

Uterine elevators
Scalpel blades
Suture needles
Operative instruments
Probes
Graspers
Scissors
Bipolar forceps

Veress needles

Cannulas

Laparoscopes

Ring applicators

Clip applicators

Irrigator-aspirators

Insufflators	Video monitors
Xenon light sources	Videotape recorders
Light cables	Printers
Video cameras	Electrosurgical generators

G. Skills

1. Preparation: patients and operating rooms

Equipment floor plans	Draping
Room lighting	Examination under anesthesia
Stomach decompression	Antiseptic preparation
Anesthetic inhalants	Tenaculum to cervix
Patient's positioning of legs, arms and buttocks	Uterine sounding
Table height adjustments	Setting intrauterine manipulators
	Organizing cables and cords
2. Peritoneal access

Umbilical incisions	Cannula entry logistics, primary and secondary
Abdominal wall elevation	Left upper quadrant veress and cannula entry
Veress entry logistics	Left lower intercostal veress entry
Assessing pneumoperitoneum	
3. Tissue evaluation, manipulation and dissection

Macroergonomics	
Veress grips	Laparoscopic instrument grips
Cannula grips	Irrigator-aspirator grips
Laparoscope grips	Ring and clip applicator grips
Video camera grips	Abdominal incision closures
Probe grips	
Microergonomics	
Mobilization of bowel	Blunt dissection
Strategic regional and focused inspection	Sharp dissection
Systematic irrigation- aspiration	Positioning fallopian tubes
Focused grasping and lifting	Physical and thermal application
Focused manipulation	Clip applications
Tension-counter tension maneuvers	Band applications
Uterine manipulation	Chromopertubation
	Bipolar electrosurgical coaptive coagulation

H. Troubleshooting and creativity

1. Extremes of body habitus
2. Prior laparotomy
3. Uterine anteversion and retroversion
4. Large or malformed uterus
5. Cervical stenosis
6. Preperitoneal insufflation
7. Lens fogging
8. Adhesive diseases
9. Carbonization and tissue sticking
10. Significant tubo-ovarian adhesions

I. Complications: recognition and management

Bleeding at tenaculum sites	Traumatic injury to retroperitoneal vessels
Uterine perforation and bleeding	Traumatic injury to bowel
Bleeding at cannula sites, superficial and deep	Traumatic injury to bladder
Sterilization failure	Hemorrhage at traction and incision sites
	Thermal injury to viscera

J. Medico-legal considerations

Informed consent doctrine
Documentation

Pre-operative counseling
Post-operative care

Level II: To improve skills in simple surgical techniques such as ovarian cystectomy**A. Level IIA**

Pelvic findings and technical limits

- a) Vascular adhesions
- b) Superficial peritoneal diseases
- c) No tissue mass
- d) Sharp dissection in pelvis
- e) No retroperitoneal dissection
- f) No significant tissue removal

Procedures and their indications

Diagnostic and focal biopsy

Lysis of moderate adhesions

Biopsy and coagulation of superficial endometriosis

B. Level IIB

Pelvic findings and technical limits

Small mobile masses

Sharp dissection and excision in pelvis

Simple tissue removal

No retroperitoneal dissection

Procedures and their indications

- a) Tubal sterilization: segmental resection, modified Pomeroy
- b) Salpingectomy
- c) Linear salpingostomy

C. Level IIC

Pelvic findings and technical limits

a) Larger mobile masses

b) Greater tissue removal

Procedures and their indications

- a) Ovarian cystectomy
- b) Pedunculated myomectomy
- c) Posterior culdotomy

D. Didactic content for levels IIA, IIB, and IIC

1. Anatomy

- a) Pelvic brim
- b) Pelvic sidewall
- c) Course of pelvic ureter
- d) Base of broad ligament
- e) Upper paravaginal anatomy
- f) Rectovaginal reflection

2. Ancillary instrumentation

- a) Injection-aspiration needles
- b) Monopolar operative instruments and electrodes
 - (1) Graspers
 - (2) Scissors
 - (3) Blades
 - (4) Needle tips
- c) Toothed tissue graspers
- d) Endoscopic sacs
- e) Endoloops
- f) Fascial closure devices
- g) Heaney needle holders
- h) Small soft tissue retractors

3. Skills

- a) Bowel preparation
- b) Choosing and attaining accessory cannula sites
- c) Tissue evaluation, manipulation and dissection
 - (1) Strategic inspection for signs of malignancy
 - (2) Systematic peritoneal washings
 - (3) Systematic adhesiolysis
 - (4) Hydro-injection of retroperitoneum
 - (5) Hydro-dissection
 - (6) Mechanical incision and excision
 - (7) Monopolar techniques with a variety of electrodes
 - (a) Desiccation
 - (b) Coagulation
 - (c) Electro-section
 - (d) Vaporization
 - (e) Fulguration
 - (8) Linear and curvilinear monopolar electro-section
 - (9) Peritoneal relaxing incisions
 - (10) Bipolar electrosurgical techniques
 - (a) Coaptive desiccation
 - (b) Touch coagulation
 - (11) Hydro dissection for removal of intraluminal products of conception
 - (12) Endoloop as tissue ligature
 - (13) Mass reduction and extraction of tubal segment
 - (14) Ovarian fixation
 - (15) Ovarian cyst aspiration
 - (16) Diagnostic ovarian cystoscopy
 - (17) Tension-counter tension synamism of tissue peeling
 - (18) Bagging and extracting specimens
 - (19) Total directed peritoneal lavage
 - (20) Prophylactic hemostasis with vasopressin
 - (21) Anatomic recognition for posterior culdotomy
 - (22) Reshaping techniques for myoma removal
 - (23) Transporting and affixing adhesion barriers
 - (24) Widening abdominal walls, soft tissues and fascia
 - (25) Direct abdominal fascial closure
 - (26) Transvaginal suturing of vagina fornix
- d) Troubleshooting and creativity

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No abdominal wall vessel landmarks Smoke evacuation Clot lysis and removal Bleeding epigastric vessels Cyst aspiration, size reduction Preventing leakage on cyst aspiration Dense dermoid Bagging large tissue masses Adhesion prevention The stuck specimen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bleeding at ovarian hilum Removing large tissue masses Calcified myoma Maintaining pneumoperitoneum on vaginal incision Mass reshaping and morcellation Endometriosis near vagina, bladder bowel and ureter Significantly dissected ovarian fossa Peritoneal trophoblastic implantation
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4. Complications: recognition and management
 - Injury to superficial or inferior epigastric vessels
 - Abdominal wall vessel ligation and coagulation
 - Thermal injury to bladder or bowel
 - Active arterial hemorrhage
 - Lost vessels
 - Larger cannula sites
 - Direct fascial closure
 - Spillage of ovarian cyst contents: dermoid and mucinous
 - Myometrial bleeding
 - Pitressin-induced cardiovascular phenomena

Level III: To practice for advanced laparoscopic surgery such as salpingo-oophorectomy, hysterectomy, myomectomy and lymphadenectomy

- A. Pelvic findings and technical limits
 1. No distortion of retroperitoneum
 2. Dense vascular adhesions
 3. Advanced adhesiolysis
 4. Dissection and mobilization of pelvic ureter
 5. Securing large vascular pedicles
 6. Dissection and mobilization of retroperitoneum
 7. Laparoscopic suturing
- B. Procedures and their indications
 1. Lysis of dense adhesions
 2. Excision of peritoneal endometriosis
 3. Pelvic sidewall dissection
 4. Oophorectomy
 5. LAVH down to uterine vessels
 6. Supracervical hysterectomy
 7. Uterine morcellation
 8. LUNA
 9. Repair of incidental cystotomy
- C. Anatomy
 1. Three surgical layers of the pelvic sidewall
 2. Avascular retroperitoneal spaces
- D. Ancillary instrumentation
 1. Knot pushers
 2. Needle holders
 3. Suture needles and materials
- E. Skills: Tissue manipulation and dissection
 1. Restoration of tubo-ovarian anatomy
 2. Entering and mobilizing retroperitoneum
 3. Identification and isolation of pelvic ureters
 4. Tubo-uterine dissection and incision
 5. Utero-ovarian dissection and incision
 6. Retro-ovarian dissection
 7. Skeletonization of ovarian vessels
 8. Free suture-passing techniques
 9. Extracorporeal tying
 10. Intracorporeal tying
 11. Bipolar coaptive desiccation of ovarian vessels

12. Broad ligament dissection
 13. Skeletonization of lower uterine segment
 14. Mobilization of vesicouterine plane
 15. Uterine artery skeletonization
 16. Coaptive desiccation of lower uterine segment vessels
 17. Skeletonization and incision of uterosacral ligament
 18. Anterior and posterior culdotomies
- F. Troubleshooting and creativity**
- Identification and surgical isolation of ureters
 - Retro-ovarian fixation
 - Dense periovarian adhesions
 - Posterior and low lateral myoma
 - Mobilizing large uterus
 - Segmentally accessing large uterus
- G. Complications: recognition and management**
1. Thermal and mechanical injury to ureters
 2. Retroperitoneal bleeding
 3. Incidental cystotomy
 4. Retracted or lost pelvic vessels
 5. Have the appropriate competency level of knowledge and skills for correct laparoscopic complications

7. SPHERE OF TRAINING PROCESS AND EXPERIENCE

Every trainee is required to study and work under close supervision of the responsible supervisors as a period of attended program. The international program consists of didactic lectures given in English and laboratory training (dry lab and wet lab) and requires trainees to work as an assistant or surgeon in the operating theatre under supervision of professors.

The activities for the training program include:

1. Medical conferences, including national and international teleconferences, didactic lectures, journal club, case demonstration, case study, etc.
2. Taking care of gynecologic patients in the out-patient department (including pre and post operative care) and in-patient gynecologic ward under close supervision.
3. Working as an assistant in the operating theatre on endoscopic surgeries.
4. Performing simple endoscopic surgical procedures under close supervision of professors in the field of Endoscopic surgery according to the program attended
 - The 3-month training program: diagnostic laparoscopy, diagnostic hysteroscopy, and minor laparoscopic surgery such as salpingectomy and cystectomy
 - The 6-month training program: Laparoscopic salpingo-oophorectomy, laparoscopic hysterectomy on uncomplicated cases
 - The 1- year training program: Laparoscopic surgery on difficult cases such as laparoscopic hysterectomy for a large pelvic mass or severe endometriosis.
5. Learning how to be a good trainer in the field of endoscopic surgery.

8. PROGRAM EVALUATION TO CERTIFY THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ENDOSCOPIC SURGEONS

1. Formative evaluation during the training process for every program
2. Summative evaluation by final written examination, interview and research project for the 1-year training program.
3. A trainee who fulfills the above requirements is qualified for Certificate of Proficiency in Gynecologic Endoscopy according to the attended program.

9. BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

The trainee must have at least one of the following compulsory qualifications.

1. Licentiate doctor of medicine from a qualified institute
2. Qualified for Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology from a standard institute
3. Three-year experience in gynecologic surgery

10. TRAINING PERIOD

The course starts on 1st of June each year.

11. PROGRAM OPENING AND POSITION

The opening of the program is according to the decision of the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University with maximally two international positions accepted each year.

12. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chairman	Assoc. Professor Dr. Amphan Chalermchokcharoenkit
Committee	Professor Dr. Pongsakdi Chaisilwattana Assist. Professor Dr. Suwanit Therasakvichya Assoc. Professor Dr. Rounsin Choavaratana Assos. Professor Dr. Surasak Angsuwathana Assoc. Professor Dr. Suphakde Julavijitphong Assist. Professor Dr. Pavit Sutchritpongsa Lecturer. Dr. Naruenart Lomarat Assos. Professor Dr. Rosarin Ratanalekha
Secretary	Assoc. Professor Dr. Korakot Sirimai
Advisors	Professor Dr. Chanchai Vantanasiri Assist. Professor Dr. Somsak Laiwejpithaya Assoc. Professor Dr. Weerasak Wongtiraporn Professor Dr. Anuvat Roongpisuthipong

13. TRAINING STAFF

- 1) Professor Dr. Pongsakdi Chaisilwattana
- 2) Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. H.R. Tinneberg and colleagues
- 3) Assoc. Professor Dr. Amphan Chalermchokcharoenkit
- 4) Assoc. Professor Dr. Korakot Sirimai
- 5) Assist. Professor Dr. Kovit Pimolpan
- 6) Assoc. Professor Dr. Rounsin Choavaratana
- 7) Assoc. Professor Dr. Surasak Angsuwathana
- 8) Assoc. Professor Dr. Suphakde Julavijitphong

- 9) Assist. Professor Dr. Suwanit Therasakvichya
- 10) Assoc. Professor Dr. Manee Rattanachaiyanont
- 11) Assist. Professor Dr. Pavit Sutthritpongsa
- 12) Assist. Professor Dr. Pitak Laokirkkiat
- 13) Assist. Professor Dr. Pichai Leerasiri
- 14) Assist. Professor Dr. Perapong Inthasorn
- 15) Assoc. Professor Dr. Prasong Tanmahasamut
- 16) Lecturer Dr. Pattaya Hengrasmee
- 17) Professor Dr. Suchai Soontrapa (Urologist)
- 18) Lecturer. Dr. Naruenart Lomarat (Anesthesiologist)
- 19) Assoc. Professor Dr. Rosarin Ratanalekha (Anatomist)

14. BASIC DATA OF THE QUALIFIED ENDOSCOPIC TRAINING CENTER

Special requirements for training centers in gynecologic endoscopic surgery.

	Yes	No
1. Recognized specialists	8 Persons	
2. Clinical workload (Jan-Dec, 2011)		
Number of patients in Gynecologic Oncology unit	4,572	visits
Number of patients in Endocrine unit		
Menopause clinic	4,362	visits
Endocrine clinic	4,361	visits
Number of patients in Family Planning unit		
Counseling service	4,242	visits
Family planning users	7,463	visits
Number of patients in Infertility unit		
Infertility clinic	11,558	visits
Number of patients in laparoscope / hysteroscope surgery per year	857	cases
	97	cases
3. Appropriate clinical facilities for investigating relevant endocrine and infertility disorders	[/]	[]
4. Facility for training in laparoscopic tubal microsurgery		
Number of patients for laparoscopic tubal microsurgery	28	cases
5. Collaboration with consultants	[/]	[]
6. Adequate gynecological pathology service	[/]	[]
7. Research program in the subspecialty field	[/]	[]

15. TRAINEE PERFORMANCE AND TRAINING SCHEDULE

1. The trainee has to be in charge of and responsible for the gynecologic out-patient clinic once a week.
2. The trainee has to work either as an assistant or a surgeon in the operating theatre at least 15 hours a week.
3. The trainee has to take good care of the patients in the gynecologic wards with full responsibility.

4. The trainee has to conduct and attend academic conferences in the journal club and the departmental conferences at least two hours a week.
5. The trainee has to serve as an advisor for the residents, medical students, nurses and paramedical personnel.

TRAINING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day/Time	7.00-8.00	8.00-9.00	9.00-12.00	13.00-16.00	16.00-17.00
Monday	Ward round	Departmental conference or Grand round	OR		Ward round
Tuesday	Ward round	Lecture	OR		Ward round
Wednesday	Ward round	Case conference	OPD	TG-MET-C academic meeting or laboratory practice	Ward round
Thursday	Ward round	Lecture	OR	OR and/or Journal club	Ward round
Friday	Ward round	Departmental or interdepartmental conference	OR	Self-study and laboratory practice	Ward round

Lecture Topic for Three -- month International Fellowship Training Program

No.	Date	Topic	Lectures
1.		Technique of diagnostic and laparoscopic surgery	Prof. Dr. Pongsakdi Chaisilwattana
2.		Techniques of diagnostic and hysteroscopic surgery	Asst. Prof. Dr. Surasak Angsuwathana
3.		Management of early and late complication	Asst. Prof. Dr. Korakot Sirimai
4.		Gasless laparoscopy	Asst. Prof. Dr. Korakot Sirimai
5.		Laparoscopic gynecologic oncosurgery	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Amphan Chalermchockcharoenkit
6.		Role of Laparoscopic in Infertility	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suphakde Julavijitphong
7.		Urologic gynecology	Prof. Dr. Suchai Soontrapa
8.		Laparoscopic Hysterectomy	Asst. Prof. Dr. Pavit Sutthritpongsa

16. CERTIFICATION

All trainees who have completed the training process according to the curriculum and have passed the examination are qualified to receive the Certificate of International Training in Gynecologic Endoscopic Surgery from the Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand.

17. COURSE COORDINATORS

- Assoc. Professor Dr. Amphan Chalermchockcharoenkit
Chairman, Thai – German Multidisciplinary Endoscopic Training Center
Tel. 02 - 419-7000 ext 4744-5
- Ms. Janjira Boorisut
International Relations, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital
Tel. 02 – 419 – 7000 ext. 9465-6 ext 104

18. TUITION, FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM (ADDITIONAL THREE MONTH)

1. Instructor Fee			
- Instructor Fee (1,500 Baht/hr x 16 hrs)	24,000.00	Baht	
- Instructor Fee (1,000 Baht/hrs,3hrs/day)16 days	48,000.00	Baht	
- Instructor fee (observe 1,500 baht x 15 days)	22,500.00	Baht	
2. Instruments			
2.1 Depreciation value of the training instrument	9,000.00	Baht	
2.2 Expense for disposable raw specimen for laboratory	10,000.00	Baht	
2.3 Porcine workshop	18,000.00	Baht	
2.4 Pelvic Training model	4,000.00	Baht	
3. Expense for Welcome Banquets (30x 150/person)	4,500.00	Baht	
4. Expense for Culture tour			
5.1 Admission charge	1,500.00	Baht	
5.2 Travelling expense	2,000.00	Baht	
5. Traveling Expense from Airport (arrival and departure trip)	3,000.00	Baht	
6. Expense for Coordinator			
7.1 Department/section	2,000.00	Baht	
7.2 International Relation	2,000.00	Baht	
7. Compensation for Siriraj education patients	20,000.00	Baht	
8. Other non itemized supplies	9,500.00	Baht	
	Total 1 - 8	180,000.00	Baht
9. Faculty Fee	12,000.00	Baht	
	Total 1 - 9	192,000.00	Baht
Total expense for addition six months	192,000.00	Baht	
			(USD 6,400 \$30 = 1 USD)