

BSG Endorsed IBD Fellowships Criteria

The overall goal of an IBD fellowship is to allow a trainee the opportunity to gain expert sub-specialty clinical skills in IBD and to accelerate their career development by participating in the clinical operations of a leading IBD Centre. This page explains the criteria for getting an IBD fellowship endorsed and how to make an application.

The BSG endorses IBD fellowships to ensure that fellows achieve comprehensive advanced IBD training under senior educational supervision. Centres must have a formal training plan for advanced IBD for this one year program to ensure the fellow receives a comprehensive training program. We expect that this fellowship will usually be undertaken after CCT although training during the later stages of higher specialty training can be acceptable for candidates with equivalent experience. The main advantage for centres is that they can use the BSG endorsement when posting job adverts and the BSG will aim to highlight to the trainee section members all available endorsed UK IBD fellowships.

Centres must be based in the UK and should have the following resources in place to ensure fellows are exposed to a wide range of IBD issues:

- Centres must have a dedicated IBD lead and show commitment to excellence in IBD care.
- Regular IBD MDT to ensure experience in GI radiology (weekly or bi-weekly) and pathology (at least monthly) and joint medical/surgical working
- Named IBD surgical lead
- Support of IBD nurses and research nurses
- Dedicated Inflammatory Bowel Disease outpatient clinic with patient with complex IBD
- Training in IBD specific endoscopy including surveillance and assessment
- Inpatient IBD management including complex IBD and nutritional issues

Desirable (where locally these aren't available links to regional centres could provide access to these)

- Joint IBD surgical clinics
- IBD in pregnancy clinic
- Paediatric IBD transition clinics
- Dedicated IBD dietician input
- Dedicated IBD pharmacist input

As well as clinical exposure centres should be able provide fellows with:

- Dedicated time for IBD clinical research or quality improvement project
- IBD clinical trials instruction including industry and portfolio studies

Time table:

We recognise that centres may require the fellow to work other aspects of GI or general medical shifts to allow for funding of posts. The fellow should attend the following minimum number of clinical events to allow for sufficient experience:

1. 40 IBD clinics per annum (includes general, flare, surgical, obstetric, transition or senior nurse led clinics)
2. Take part as an integral member of the IBD MDT meeting regularly
3. Significant exposure to IBD inpatient experience

Centres should offer trainees the opportunities to personalize the curriculum based on a fellow's individual interests including: 1) a clinical research focus with ample opportunities and resources to complete clinical research projects, 2) experience with industry and investigator-initiated clinical trials and 3) advanced IBD clinical care including endoscopic procedures specific to IBD.

Future development:

We expect centres that want to endorse IBD fellowships to partake in BSG IBD quality improvement initiatives and apply for IBD unit endorsement should this be introduced. We expect that IBD fellowships are advertised in open competition (for example on NHS jobs) to allow for a transparent selection process.

Once approved, it will be posted on an IBD Fellowships page on the BSG website.