



THE ROYAL  
COLLEGE OF  
SURGEONS  
OF EDINBURGH

*The Faculty of Perioperative Care*

---

# The Faculty of Perioperative Care (FPC)

Providing education, training and support for advanced perioperative practitioners in their role as members of the extended surgical team



# The Faculty of Perioperative Care

---

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) established the Faculty of Perioperative Care in 2016 in recognition of the evolving and increasingly important role that perioperative practitioners play as part of the wider surgical team in delivering safe, surgical care to patients. The Faculty is open to all perioperative practitioners in the UK, including trainees, Surgical Care Practitioners (SCPs) and Surgical First Assistants (SFAs) and all those with similar titles involved in the delivery of high-quality surgical care.

The Faculty holds an annual conference for perioperative practitioners, offers courses, webinars and podcasts and provides online resources to support the extended surgical team. It works in partnership with the Association for Perioperative Practitioners and has developed close relationships with universities who run degree courses for SCPs and SFAs. More recently, the Faculty has partnered with the Royal College of Surgeons of England to develop a Curriculum Framework for SCPs and to introduce a Managed Voluntary Register for SCPs. Collectively, these initiatives establish and communicate the standards for the postgraduate education of SCPs and their ongoing professional development.

The Faculty was ably led by Mr Charles Auld from its inception and he was integral to its establishment and development. He was replaced as FPC lead by Mrs Juliette Murray in October 2022. Juliette is currently Associate Clinical Director at the Centre for Sustainable Delivery and Deputy Medical Director in NHS Forth Valley. Previous roles include Deputy Director of Medical Education and Strategic Cancer Lead in NHS Lanarkshire where she had a significant role in teaching and training both medical staff and advanced practitioners.

The Faculty continues to provide education and training, and set standards for these practitioners and the College is committed to supporting this group as part of the surgical team.

We welcome all perioperative practitioners to join and become part of one of the largest and oldest Royal Surgical Colleges in the UK.



**Juliette Murray**  
Faculty of Perioperative Care Lead and  
Deputy Medical Director for NHS Forth Valley

# Founded in 2016

---

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh has been the professional home for surgery and dentistry for over 500 years. All through that time, we have never wavered from our commitment to advancing surgical excellence through education, training, examination and assessment.

Now in our sixth century, we are proud of where we are today and what we have achieved. Our College embraces the complete surgical team and beyond, with established faculties dedicated to the advancement and support of perioperative practitioners, pre-hospital care delivery, surgical trainers, dentistry, sport and exercise medicine and more.

We understand that our success relies on fostering a team ethos, and the progression of our profession relies on the commitment and dedication of a wider teams and support from colleagues in other vocations to surgery. As the surgical team has evolved, we have formally recognised the need to support our colleagues in the wider surgical team and founded a dedicated Faculty of Perioperative Care to support and develop surgical care practitioners, surgical first assistants and healthcare staff with similar roles. Established in 2016, the College's Faculty of Perioperative Care offers support and professional development for all perioperative practitioners, including surgical care practitioners; surgical first assistants; and all those with similar roles involved in the delivery of high quality surgical care.



# Faculty of Perioperative Care Membership Categories

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh is one of the largest surgical colleges in the world, and by joining our Faculty of Perioperative Care, you are welcomed into a network of over 25,000 professionals, stretching across over 100 countries.

Membership of the Faculty of Perioperative Care is open to all perioperative practitioners in an extended and / or advanced role in the UK, including surgical care practitioners (SCP) and surgical first assistants (SFA), and those with similar job titles, such as formerly advanced scrub practitioners and physician associates.

There are three levels of membership to the Faculty that recognise the different career status of applicants: Affiliate, Member and Fellow. Full Faculty Members can use the post-nominals MFPCd upon being conferred at one of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh's prestigious diploma ceremonies. Fellowship is currently by invitation only.

## Membership Subscription Rates

Membership Status	One-off Election Fee	Annual Fee*	Discounted Annual Fee*
Affiliate	n/a	£50	£40*/25**
Member	£50	£120	£100
Fellow	By Invitation Only		

**Visit [fpc.rcsed.ac.uk/join-the-faculty](https://fpc.rcsed.ac.uk/join-the-faculty) for further details about membership categories**

\*Discounted annual fee is available to Members of the AFPP in good standing

\*\*Discounted annual fee is available to trainees



“

I was delighted to have Membership of the Faculty of Perioperative Care conferred at the diploma ceremony. Having the opportunity to participate in the diploma ceremony, along with surgical colleagues from across the world, bears testament to the commitment that RCSEd has in supporting and developing perioperative practitioners as part of an evolving surgical community. I enjoy working with the Faculty and the RCSEd more widely to continue to develop training, education and support for surgical first assistants (SFAs), surgical care practitioners (SCPs) and a wide range of perioperative practitioners who undertake advanced roles in surgery. It is an honour to be the first MFPCEd and I am looking forward to working closely with the many colleagues who will follow and join the Faculty in the coming months and years.

**Mr John Stirling** RGN MFPCEd, NORS Workforce Transformation Project Lead, ODT Commissioning, NHS Blood and Transplant

”



# Cutting Edge Membership Benefits to Help You Succeed

---

By joining The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh's Faculty of Perioperative Care (FPC) as an Affiliate, Member or Fellow, you become part of a prestigious network of some 25,000 professionals in over 100 countries across the world and gain access to a range of personal and professional benefits to help you in your career.

Benefits of membership includes:

## **Career Progression Recognition with Your Surgical Colleagues**

All Faculty members receive a certificate of RCSEd Faculty of Perioperative Care affiliation for your portfolio and full Faculty Members gain the use of the post-nominals MFPCEd upon being conferred at one of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh's prestigious diploma ceremonies.

## **Access to Networking Events with the Complete Surgical Team**

The College regularly hosts forums and networking events across the UK to allow the College membership to get together and discuss surgical and workforce issues. Attendees at these events have the opportunity to meet with the College President and key College leaders over refreshments and have informal discussions about the topics raised.

## **Acland Anatomy**

We are pleased to offer our membership free access to the high quality online anatomy resource, Acland Anatomy. This dynamic online training resource is an excellent learning resource. The filming technique used provides a very helpful three-dimensional perspective of real anatomical specimens. This allows users to focus in on the structures and movements they are studying. Intelligent search and navigation tools make it easy to find the content needed to learn, revise or review.

## **Webinars**

In addition, Faculty members have access to a wide range of webinars across a variety of surgical specialties which have been recorded and are available on the webinar archive.



### **Library Services**

By joining our College, you gain access to our College Library, which holds works dating back to the 1400s and provides access to over 30,000 books and journals. Our membership are eligible for free full-text access to thousands of electronic journals, books and databases through the Knowledge Network of NHS Scotland. Fellows and Members of the College can email the Library and will be sent a brief pdf guide to registration for an Athens username and password for these excellent resources.

### **Free Entry to our Surgeons' Hall Museums**

Our award-winning Museums are open to the public seven days a week, 10am to 5pm and are home to one of the largest and most historic pathology collections in the world. The Museums reopened in 2015 after a major £4.4 million Heritage Lottery Funded redevelopment project. As one of the oldest Museums in Scotland, the collections grew from 1699 after 'natural and artificial curiosities' were publically sought, with the Playfair Building opening in 1832 to house the Barclay and Bell collections.

### **Surgeons' News and eCommunications**

All Faculty members receive quarterly copies of the College's award-winning publication Surgeons' News to which you can contribute. You will receive a weekly RCSEd enewsletter and a Faculty enewsletter informing you of the latest news and developments with the Faculty.

### **Discounted Accommodation at the College's Ten Hill Place Hotel and Venues**

All Faculty members have access to discounted rates at the College's award-winning Ten Hill Place Hotel in the heart of Edinburgh. Discounted rates are accessible on meetings, events and celebrations at the College's venues, as well as discounts on food and beverage in all College restaurants and cafes.

# Professional Development Courses to Support Perioperative Practitioners

---

Since the Faculty of Perioperative Care (FPC) launched, it has developed and successfully run a number of bespoke courses targeted specifically at perioperative practitioners.

It is important to recognise that attendance and signing off at three of these courses, in addition to a PG diploma (or evidence of an education or training role for the more established practitioner) could qualify perioperative practitioners for full Faculty membership and postnominals MFPCed. (See website for details.)

## Basic Surgical Skills

### UK and internationally: Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and more

This two-day course aimed at SCPs, FY1 and above, is designed to instil core surgical skills at the very start of a surgeon's training by teaching the correct basic techniques. These courses are run on a monthly basis in several locations across the UK and internationally.

## Ultrasound Venous Scan Assessment

### 26 November 2023, Birmingham

The aim of this two-day course is to demonstrate the utility of the ultrasound doppler machine to scan the greater and short saphenous vein for Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG) surgery. Delegates will be trained and assessed on the use of the technology in harvesting a good conduit.

## Non-Technical Skills for Surgeons (NOTSS)

### 16 March 2023, Edinburgh 30 June 2023, Birmingham

This is a one-day course for consultant surgeons and post-CCT trainees from all surgical specialties. The course examines the non-technical skills which underpin good operative performance using short talks, video simulated scenarios, an audience response voting system, and small group discussions. At the end of the course participants will be able to understand the theories and research relating to adverse events in surgery and the importance of the non-technical skills in improving performance. Attendees will also be able to use the NOTSS taxonomy to observe, rate, and provide feedback on behaviours in the operating room.



# Perioperative Care Webinars

---

A webinar series for non-medical practitioners brought to you by The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in association with the RCSEd Faculty of Perioperative Care.

CPD is important for all non-medical practitioners in the surgical team (eg. SCP, ACP and SFA) to ensure their knowledge, technical and non-technical skills are kept up to date with current practice. RCSEd is the first College to develop a series of webinars specifically for this group which will complement the courses and the annual conference already run by the Faculty of Perioperative Care at the College.

Webinars include:

- Auditing my Surgical Practice as a practitioner.
- COVID-19: The value of the advanced practitioner in the surgical team.
- Assessment of risk in the Surgical patient: what the practitioner should know.
- Enhancing nursing and AHPs: The Cardiothoracic Journey.
- Enhanced recovery for advanced practitioners in surgery.
- How can non-medical practitioners get started in surgical research?
- Research career paths for non-medical practitioners in surgery.
- The Faculty of Perioperative Care 7th Annual Conference.
- The role of advanced practitioners in the breast surgical team.
- Surgical Care Practitioners in Trauma and Orthopaedics.

**Scan here and  
take your next  
steps with FPC**



# Surgical Assistance Survey

---



The Faculty of Perioperative Care conducted a survey of surgical assistance across the UK. Against the backdrop of anecdotal evidence of strain in the system, the survey aimed to capture how assistance is being provided across the UK and where any problems and solutions may lie. The survey of surgical consultants, specialty doctors and senior trainees across all specialties received 332 responses for analysis. The survey suggests the theatre workforce is under pressure and that high quality assistance from the surgical care practitioner, surgical first assistant and physician associate workforce may form part of the solution.

The survey identified that across the UK 25% of surgeons are currently unsatisfied with the level of assistance they are receiving in theatre and 43% of respondents stated that a second assistant was not always available for major cases if required. Rota problems, staff shortages and working time regulations were common reasons given for inconsistent teams. 61% of survey participants stated that non-medical practitioners were working within theatres in their hospitals; with regular involvement in assisting major cases. In keeping with previous studies the survey suggests that, where employed, the non-medical workforce provide a standard of work comparable to that of experienced surgical trainees.

The survey does suggest ongoing uncertainty about the potential impact the non-medical workforce could have on surgical training but it is clear that specialties with more established programmes such as cardiothoracics and orthopaedics have a more favourable outlook than less well established programmes. Similarly, surgeons appear to see more of the beneficial aspects as they become more senior in training. Going forward, the Faculty of Perioperative Care plans to work to develop guidelines for effective and mutually beneficial coworking.

Alistair Geraghty  
Scottish Clinical Leadership Fellow



## Specialty Exams for SCP's

---

RCSEd is leading the way in the development of a national specialty exit exam for SCP's. The cardiac exam for SCP's has been developed under the chairmanship of Norman Briffa, Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Sheffield and this has been fully supported by the Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

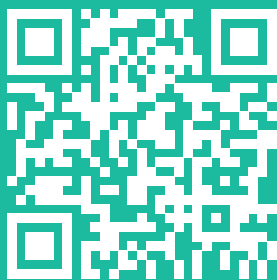


Get In Touch at:

[FPC@rcsed.ac.uk](mailto:FPC@rcsed.ac.uk)

[fpc.rcsed.ac.uk](http://fpc.rcsed.ac.uk)

+44 131 527 1555



Scan here and take your  
next steps with FPC



THE ROYAL  
COLLEGE OF  
SURGEONS  
OF EDINBURGH

*The Faculty of Perioperative Care*