

Hand Trauma Committee Guidelines

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Hand Trauma: Any closed or open injury to the wrist and/or the hand, substantially involving skin, muscle, tendon, bone and joint, nerve and/or vessels.

Hand Trauma Surgeon: is defined as a hand surgeon (member of his National Hand Surgery Society) with a special involvement in trauma surgery. A validation of this title requires official microsurgical skills recognition as well as clinical activity.

Official microsurgery recognition is obtained by a *certificate of training* or a *national diploma*, which must include some practical training.

Clinical activity is represented by the number of cases operated in any given 3 months' period chosen by the candidate (to avoid idle periods e.g. work leave or holidays).

The cases must be trauma cases operated in the Operating Room. Surgeries secondary to trauma are not included, but acute trauma cases operated the next day are.

A minimum of 24 cases during this 3 months period is required, at least 5 of which having included microsurgical techniques (nerve or arterial repair).

These cases must be operated by the applicant as first operator or attested under the responsibility of a senior surgeon.

Hand Trauma Centre must include at least 3 Hand Trauma Surgeons. The centre must be open 24/24, with at least 2 trauma cases operated (in OR) per day.

One of these surgeons will be nominated HTC delegate who represents the center at the HTC.

The HTC delegate must have obtained FESSH diploma.

Some national qualifications may be considered equivalent to the FESSH diploma. In this case the HTC delegate candidature is subject to evaluation by the accreditation commission.

It is expected that all the centres will have a HTC delegate with FESSH diploma within 10 years from now.