

ESSO Course on Surgical Colorectal Oncology Review & Essentials

Birmingham, UK, 26th to 27th November 2026

Course Chair

Melissa Cunha – University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Geerard Beets - Maastricht UMC, Netherlands

Faculty members

Jose Azevedo – Colorectal Surgeon, Champalimaud Clinical Centre, Lisbon, Portugal

Sarah Addison - Colorectal Surgeon, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Steve Ward – Colorectal Surgeon, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Sofoklis Panteleimonitis – Colorectal Surgeon, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Mit Dattani – Colorectal Surgeon, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Anil Bagul – Colorectal Surgeon, Royal Liverpool University Hospitals, UK

Assistant Faculty members:

Mona Kamal – Senior Colorectal Surgery Resident, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Asif Noor – Colorectal Surgery Fellow, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Saad Ikram – Colorectal Surgery Fellow, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Mohammed Gulamhussein – Colorectal Surgery Fellow, University Hospitals of Birmingham, UK

Programme

Thursday 26th November

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| 13.20 – 13.40 | Welcome and introduction – Melissa Cunha |
| 13:30 - 14:00 | Foundations of Oncologic Colorectal Surgery & Safe Anastomosis – Mr Dattani

Mesocolic plane integrity
Lymph node clearance & high-tie rationale
ESCP anastomosis framework
Pre-course direction to ESCP modules |
| 14:00–16:00 | Block 1 rotations (30-min stations × 4; 5-min changeovers) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Station 1: Haemostasis & energy fundamentals (Seminar room)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Bipolar vs advanced bipolar vs ultrasonic; thermal spread demo on meat models.• Station 2: Open bowel anastomosis basics (Clinical skills)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Hand-sewn end-to-end on porcine or isoperistaltic• Station 3: Port placements<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Different types of ports◦ Positioning for right or left resections• Station 4: Abdominal wall closure and stoma formation<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Model for stoma and pig tissue for abdominal wall closure |
| 16:00–16:20 | <i>Tea break</i> |

16:20 – 17:30 Case-based “What could leak?” (Right hemicolectomy scenarios, stapled vs hand-sewn, leak tests, “don’t pass the point of no return” tips)

Mr Ward

Friday 27th November

09:00 – 9:30 Mini MDT - Rectal cancer cases – Prof Beets, Mr Azevedo and Mr Panteloimitis

09:30 -11:00

- A & B: Colonic resections and bowel anastomosis
 - Right colon resection synthetic colon
 - Left colon resection synthetic colon
 - Perform stapler anastomosis
 - Barcelona technique
 - End to end anastomoses
 - Trouble-shooting staplers
- C: Laparoscopic skills consolidation
 - Laparoscopic suturing
- D: TAMIS
 - Port options (e.g., GelPOINT path demo), patient positioning, instrument set
 - Purse-string practice on synthetic rectal wall panel.
 - Polypectomy on synthetic rectal wall panel.

11:00–12:30

- A & B: Colonic resections and bowel anastomosis
- C: TAMIS
- D: Laparoscopic skills consolidation

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*

13:30–15:00

- C&D: Colonic resections and bowel anastomosis
- A: TAMIS
- B: Laparoscopic skills consolidation

15:00–16:30

- C&D: Colonic resections and bowel anastomosis
- B: TAMIS
- A: Laparoscopic skills consolidation

16:00–16:30 Debriefing