

**SUMMARIZED
SYMPOSIUM**

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Postgraduate surgical training in Malaysia

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Prior to the 1960s, opportunities for surgical training in Malaysia were very limited and those wishing to pursue a career in surgery had to obtain their surgical training and qualifications overseas. Upon their return to serve in government hospitals this nucleus of surgeons was able to provide some training locally to other aspiring surgeons. In the 1970s the University of Malaya established links with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Inspection and accreditation of training posts was carried out, examinations were conducted locally and a larger number of doctors were able to specialise in Surgery.

In the mid 1980s, the three local universities were encouraged to develop their own postgraduate surgical training programmes and today are beginning to produce a significant number of specialists. The programmes are centrally coordinated so that their structure is similar although the examinations are run separately. The programmes are aimed to provide training to specialist level. It is anticipated that a higher grade of training and examination will be conducted in the near future for the accreditation of consultants.