

## Tips for Using Procedure-Based Assessments (PBAs)

- Perform an assessment every time an index procedure is carried out (or at least once per list), rather than the bare minimum. This helps to make assessment and feedback 'routine' and aids learning.
- Focusing on one particular phase of a procedure can reduce stress on the Assessor and the Trainee.
- Day-case lists are ideal for assessing consent and pre-operative planning
- Review of the PBA form before the start of the procedure can help with the theatre team briefing.
- Keep a stock of PBA forms for commonly performed index procedures in theatre.
- The Trainee can write up the procedure note whilst the Assessor completes the assessment form (not forgetting to assess the procedure note as well).
- The theatre coffee room can be an ideal place for the Assessor and Trainee to review the completed PBA form, and for the Assessor to provide constructive feedback.
- Completion of the form without providing feedback is much less useful for the trainee as it becomes a 'tick box' exercise.
- Items rated as 'Development Required' should be expected the first time that a Trainee performs a procedure. This simply means that they need more practise and more assessments.
- Video recordings of procedures can help the Trainee to see what they did well and what they could do better. The Trainee can review the recording with the help of the PBA form. Endoscopic and laparoscopic procedures are ideal for this and many open operations can also be recorded with a camera in the theatre light.