The advanced Surgical Skills for exposure in trauma (aSSet®) course is an effective method of increasing surgical competence and confidence in the operative management of penetrating injuries to the chest and abdomen.

Developed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Surgical Skills Committee on Trauma, American College of Surgeons
The ASSET course uses human cadavers to teach surgical exposure of anatomic structures that when injured may pose a threat to life or limb.

**Course Description**

A course manual is distributed to students prior to taking the course to provide an overview of key surgical exposures in four key anatomic areas: extremities, head and neck, thoracic, and abdomen and pelvis. The one-day, cadaver-based course follows this modular, body region approach. Each section begins with a short case-based overview followed by a hands-on exposure performed by students under the guidance of faculty. The student to faculty ratio is low, allowing extensive faculty guidance and interaction with students. The student assesses his or her ability to perform each exposure independently and is evaluated on knowledge and technical skills.

**Target Audience**

The intended audience includes mid-level and senior surgical residents, trauma and acute care surgical fellows, and any surgeon who wishes a review of this anatomy.

**Objectives**

- The student will demonstrate knowledge of key anatomical exposures for the care of injured and acutely ill surgical patients.
- The student will demonstrate his or her technical ability to expose important structures that may require acute surgical intervention to save life or limb.
- The student will gain confidence in performing anatomic exposures independently.
- Faculty assessment of the student’s ability to independently perform anatomical exposures will be satisfactory.
Accreditation

The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CME Credit

The American College of Surgeons designates this educational activity for a maximum of 6.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The American College of Surgeons ASSET course complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Any person who needs an accommodation under the ADA should contact the course site.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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