



# ESTS Women in Thoracic General Thoracic Surgery Committee (WGTS) Academy 23-24

ESTS/Women in Thoracic General Thoracic Surgery Committee (WGTS) agreed on the proposal of an ESTS WGTS **Academy** to offer a great opportunity to further develop and integrate the education of female thoracic surgeons.

The purpose of this Academy will be to support female early-career general thoracic surgeons to gain exposure to women thoracic surgeon mentors and have access to educational resources that have been tailored to the needs expressed in the ESTS/EACTS Gender Bias Survey in terms of leadership, mentorship, and research training.

The Academy will be focusing on early career thoracic surgeons wishing to acquire surgical skills by a mixed scheduled of in-person networking, live webinars and observership on participation in a structured gender-balanced way:

## 1. Introductory webinar

### 2. Clinical immersion at Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark (Two days)



- A. 1.5 days in OR VATS lobectomies and segmentectomies
- B. 0.5 day at CAMES for Virtual Reality Simulation
- C. Digital Proctorships following immersions

### 3. Clinical Immersion St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, UK (Two days)



- A. ENB/Ablation
- B. Robotic Surgery and ERAS
- C. Digital Proctorships following immersions

## 4. 3D reconstruction Webinar

### 5. Surgery for Advanced Lung Disease University Hospital, Zurich, Switzerland (Two days)



- A. Lung Volume Reduction Surgery
- B. Pulmonary Endarterectomy
- C. Lung transplantation

### 6. End of Academy presentation at the ESTS Meeting in Barcelona, 26-28 May 2024



## SELECTION PROCESS

**The 8 Fellows** will be selected by the ESTS Women in General Thoracic Surgery Committee and Learning Affairs Committee after review and evaluation of the applications. Applications will be graded on strength and motivation of candidate, institutional support, and potential for career impact. Preference will be given to applicants from developing countries.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- More than 50% of his/her activity in pure general thoracic surgery
- Surgeon should be at the final year of their thoracic training or within the five years after finishing their training.
- Adequate skills in English
- Active member of ESTS
- After the Academy the candidate must return to his/her home institution to apply the acquired skills, at the home institution appropriate facilities and resources must be available.

## APPLICATION FORM

2. Essay of no more than 500 words stating how the applicant fulfils the requirements, her motivation for applying for the fellowship. The Fellowship can be both research and clinical focused, and the applicant is invited to elaborate on this choice. The proposed plan should include the Institution/s the candidate wishes to visit and the reason why that Institution will enhance her surgical career.

3. A current curriculum vitae.

4. A letter of reference from the department chair. The letter should include an overall evaluation of the fellow, including assessment of the applicant's performance during the years. The applicant's ability to satisfy the criteria of the fellowship requirements should be specifically addressed. The Department chair should confirm that they can implement one of the advanced techniques acquired in their institution and that they have the required multidisciplinary support

A final written summary must be submitted to the ESTS summarizing the educational experience and reviewing changes in practice on return to the home institution. The recipient will be invited to give a short oral presentation to share the experience during the ESTS annual meeting at the EWGTS networking session.

## APPLICATIONS TO BE SENT BY FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2023 TO:

Sue Hesford, Executive Director, ESTS  
sue@ests.org.uk

**Applicants will be notified by early October 2023**

The European Society of Thoracic Surgery (ESTS) is currently the largest global organisation purely focusing on General Thoracic Surgery with about 1600 members from all over the world.

## ESTS mission statement:

*“Our mission is to improve quality in all aspects of our specialty: from clinical and surgical management of patients to education, training and credentialing of thoracic surgeons in Europe and worldwide”.*  
*Several sections of our Society-such as the Learning Affairs Committee, Guideline Committee, and Program Committee of the Annual Conference, Women in Thoracic Surgery Committee-follow this mission with the strategy to keep the present generation of Thoracic surgeons up-to-date and to educate the future generation.*