CONCLUSION: Our pediatric surgery SBT curriculum led to significantly improved confidence placing a Silastic silo for gastroschisis and percutaneous drain for NEC/SIP, validating our earlier findings. We plan to expand our curriculum to include neonatologist and neonatal intensive care nursing staff to better educate all caregivers on the surgical care of patients with gastroschisis and NEC/SIP.

Robotic Surgery in Surgical Training: A Cross-sectional Study of Pan-Specialty Surgical Trainees
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INTRODUCTION: Robotic surgery is gaining interest with expanding indications in surgical practice. We aimed to elucidate current surgical trainee experience of robotic surgery across the United Kingdom and Ireland and their views of the role of robotic surgery both at present and in the future.

METHODS: A pan-specialty trainee cross-sectional study was performed on behalf of the Association of Surgeons in Training using mixed-methodology. Initially, a digital questionnaire was disseminated to Association of Surgeons in Training members. Data were analyzed using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. Subsequently, “live polling” was performed before and after a plenary session on robotic surgery convened at the Association of Surgeons in Training 2020 International Conference (Birmingham, UK) to identify whether education on robotic surgery can influence trainee views.

RESULTS: Three hundred and four responses were analyzed (n = 244 digital survey, n = 60 live polling). Overall, 73.8% (n = 180) of trainees would value greater access to robotic surgery training. Only 22.5% (n = 55) had robotic surgery in their current training hospital and 11.9% (n = 29) had robotic training opportunities; 73.4% (n = 179) believed that robotic surgery was important for the future of their desired specialty and 77.2% (n = 156) believed it should be incorporated into formal surgical training. Qualitative analysis identified the role of robotic surgery is most beneficial in later years of training and there might be some disadvantages, including expense and current impact of consultant learning curves on training. After live polling, “future” remained as the most common descriptor of robotic surgery and the advantages were reported as precision, ergonomics, surgical access, and surgeons health.

CONCLUSION: Current surgical trainees desire greater access to robotic surgery in surgical training. Robotic surgery is developing an increasing role in current surgical practice and it is important that it is introduced to surgical trainees at an appropriate stage of training.

Selecting the Next Generation of US Trained Surgeons: A Survey of General Surgery Program Directors and Coordinators
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INTRODUCTION: The US Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) was designed as a universal assessment tool for states to determine candidacy for medical licensure. Recent changes in the USMLE have changed the way future surgical residency candidate applications will be reviewed. The survey aimed to assess the effect of changes in USMLE: USMLE Step 1 pass/fail, complete dissolution of USMLE clinical skills examination, and the role of holistic review in future surgical residency candidacy selection.

METHODS: A validated anonymous online survey was created and distributed to general surgery program directors and coordinators across the US. The survey aimed to assess attitudes toward changes to USMLE and the potential changes with a holistic review of candidate applications.

RESULTS: The response rate was 61.7%. Most of the program directors and coordinators disagree with the decision of changing Step 1 to a pass/fail scoring system. The majority thought that contacts, the name of the medical school, and performance in clinical electives and subinternships will hold stronger significance. They also believe that a holistic review of application will lead to a decrease in socioeconomic discrepancies and promote diversity and inclusion.

CONCLUSION: Step 2 clinical knowledge will gain more importance in the coming matches. The name of the medical school, personal contacts, and clinical performance in rotations will hold more significance. Our respondents believe a holistic review of applicants will lead increase in the recruitment of students of color and minorities along with candidates with nonacademic struggles.

Stop the Bleed in the Era of COVID-19: A Remote Teaching and Evaluation Strategy
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INTRODUCTION: Traumatic hemorrhage is a leading cause of preventable mortality worldwide. The Stop the Bleed (STB) course