

# Da Vinci Residency/Fellowship Training Equivalency Certificate Requirements and Letter

## Multipoint and/or Single-Site Training

### Background

A growing number of surgical residency and fellowship programs now include the use of the da Vinci system as part of their curriculum. A resident or fellow who completes such a program and goes on to seek employment at a hiring hospital may find that the hiring hospital is interested in learning more about the resident's/fellow's da Vinci system experience. To help residents/fellows communicate this information, Intuitive has established a Certificate of da Vinci System Training for qualifying residents and fellows.

The Certificate of da Vinci System Training is not a replacement for any hospital's credentialing requirements and is not a representation of clinical competence, as Intuitive only trains on the use of the da Vinci system.

In order to qualify for a Certificate of da Vinci System Training, a resident or fellow must satisfy all of the criteria listed below. Completion of each activity should be documented in a da Vinci Skills Tracker for Residents & Fellows worksheet (PN1024649). Upon completion of the activities below, the online assessment certificate, case log (recommended), and letter from program director or chief of surgery should be submitted to Intuitive for equivalency certificate consideration.

In order to qualify for a da Vinci System Training Equivalency Certificate, residents and fellows must complete all of the requirements listed:

### Da Vinci System Training Equivalency Requirements

#### 1. Da Vinci System Online Learning

Online introduction to the da Vinci system which covers topics such as:

- Da Vinci system overview and/or
- Da Vinci Single-Site technology overview
- OR setup, system connections and startup
- Vision system
- Patient Cart and draping
- Docking and intraoperative Patient Cart use
- Safety features

#### 2. Da Vinci System In-service Training

Hands-on introduction to the da Vinci system which covers topics such as:

- OR setup, system connections and startup
- Surgeon Console
- Vision Cart
- Instruments and accessories
- Port placement
- Docking
- Instrument insertion and port hopping
- Intraoperative use
- Emergency procedures
- Cleaning and sterilization
- Powering off and storing the system
- Troubleshooting
- Communication

#### 3. Da Vinci Online Assessment

#### 4. Documentation

Submit via email to [equivalency.training@intusurg.com](mailto:equivalency.training@intusurg.com)

- Online assessment certificate(s)
- Letter from the chief of surgery or equivalent verifying da Vinci technology training and the procedures in which the surgeon participated
- Case Log (optional). Performance of procedures using the da Vinci system in primary role of console surgeon (20 recommended) and primary role of bedside assistant (10 recommended)

Once completion of the above requirements has been confirmed, a da Vinci System Training Equivalency Certificate may be supplied.

### Da Vinci System Additional Support Recommendations

#### 1. Simulator

Practice skills with da Vinci simulator

#### 2. Proctoring

Case support from surgeon experienced in using the da Vinci system

#### 3. Additional Skills Practice

Hands-on practice with the da Vinci system

---

**Sample Letter**

Hospital Name/logo  
Address line 1  
Address line 2  
  
Contact number 1  
Contact number 2  
  
website.com

Date:

RE: [Resident/fellow's name]

Dear Intuitive Training Staff:

Dr. [Resident/fellow's name] successfully completed a [residency or fellowship] in surgery using the da Vinci system in [specialty] at [institution] from [dates].

I certify that during this time, [resident/fellow's name] has performed an adequate number of cases as a patient-side assistant and console surgeon to demonstrate skill proficiency as assessed by the program director.

[Resident/fellow's name] has also received training on the following topics regarding da Vinci system use:

- Port placement
- Patient Cart setup
- Docking and undocking
- Instrument insertion and exchange
- Surgeon Console settings
- Camera control
- Clutching
- EndoWrist® instrument manipulation
- 3<sup>rd</sup> arm control
- Range of motion
- Retraction
- Dissection
- Suturing
- Applying energy
- Troubleshooting
- Communication

Dr. [Resident's/fellow's name] is now qualified in [Institution]'s opinion to perform minimally invasive procedures using the da Vinci system.

Sincerely,

[Name and title of residency/fellowship director]

---

**Disclosures**

Training provided by Intuitive is limited to the use of Intuitive technology, instruments and accessories. It does not replace the necessary medical training and experience required to perform procedures. Before performing any procedure using Intuitive technology, physicians are responsible for receiving sufficient training to ensure that they have the skill and experience necessary to protect the health and safety of their patients. Intuitive technology should only be used by physicians and staff who have received specific training in the use of Intuitive technology. Prior to using any training materials, refer to Intuitive Learning to ensure you are using the most up-to-date revision and that the software version of the training matches the software version installed on your system. There may be instances in which certain training content or activities listed above may not be available. For example, activities that require case history (e.g., videos or observations) may not be immediately available following a new product launch. In those cases, if you wish for additional training, please consult with your hospital and/or work with your Intuitive representative to explore alternative training activities.

For important safety information, indications for use, risks and full cautions and warnings, please refer to the user manual(s) and [www.intuitive.com](http://www.intuitive.com).

© 2020 Intuitive Surgical, Inc. All rights reserved. Product and brand names/logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intuitive Surgical or their respective owner. See [www.intuitive.com/trademarks](http://www.intuitive.com/trademarks).