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## American College of surgeons /Association for Surgical Education Medical Student Simulation-based Surgical Skills Curriculum: Alignment with Entrustable Professional Activities

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### a b s t r a c t

**Background:** We hypothesized that medical experts would concur the American College of Surgeons/ Association for Surgical Education Medical Student Simulation-based Surgical Skills Curriculum ( “ACS/ ASE Curriculum”) could be used to teach and assess Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs).

**Methods:** A “crosswalk” was created between ACS/ASE Curriculum modules and eight EPAs. Medical education experts participated in a Delphi process regarding feasibility of using the modules for teaching and assessing EPAs.

**Results:** Twenty-eight educators from six clinical fields participated. There was consensus that five of the EPAs could be taught and assessed by the ACS/ASE Curriculum. A median of nine hours per month outside the surgical clerkship was recommended for skills training.

**Conclusions:** The ACS/ASE Curriculum lays the framework for implementing select EPAs into medical student education. Experts recommended increased time for skills training with incorporation of the modules into the first three years of medical education, with assessments planned in the third to fourth

to the more cognitive American College of Surgeons (ACS)/Association for Surgical Education (ASE) Core Curriculum,<sup>4</sup> there are numerous curricula aimed at focused skills training in the senior year.<sup>5e7</sup> The ACS/ASE Medical Student Simulation Based Surgical

## Results

Thirty expert medical educators were initially contacted, and





In your opinion, how much time should be “protected”/devoted to medical students' skills training outside the third-year surgery clerkship?

Do you have a platform for tracking graduating students' EPA progress? If so, please explain what type.

For each of the following EPAs, please respond whether or not you believe that the modules listed could be used to teach and assess them:

- o Could the following module ( description of and link to module) be used to TEACH EPA: (description of EPA)? Why or

