

## External Fixator Course

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### Background:

The urgent treatment of fractures through external fixation is a skill, which a general surgeon should master independently of his/her specialised orientation. With the new education program for surgeons, it will not be possible for all residents to learn these required operations during their residency in the various hospitals. The Swiss Trauma Society together with the Swiss Society of Surgery organises therefore this new course focusing mainly on indications and practical skills needed for external fixation.

In the postgraduate education program for the specialty title in surgery a minimum of 5 external fixators are required in the emergency module of the operation catalogue. As alternative to these five procedures, a successfully passed external fixator course can also be recognised.

### Aim of the course:

At the end of this course, participants should be able to:

- Know when to use an external fixation for fracture treatment
- Describe the principles of external fixation
- Apply an external fixation on the wrist and on the tibia.

### Course description:

The course is divided in three parts

1. Oral presentations to learn the indications for the use of external fixation, the mechanical principles, the surgical accesses and the management of soft tissue
2. Practical exercises to learn to apply an external fixation on the wrist and on the tibia
3. Examination of the theoretical knowledge and of the practical skills

To pass the exam participants must successfully pass both the theoretical and the practical tests. A failed practical test can be repeated once on the same day while a failed theoretical exam can be repeated on another day. The course is considered as failed if the theoretical or the practical test is failed twice. In this case the whole course has to be successfully repeated in order to obtain the certificate.

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- Certificate:** Every participant will receive a participation document. Successful completion of the examination entitles to a course certificate recognised by the Swiss Society of Surgery for the operation catalogue.
- Course language:** Presentations and examination: English  
Practical exercises: German, French and English
- Course location:** Cantonal Hospital Lucerne
- Course fee:** CHF 430.00  
(including course material, certificate, lunch and snacks)
- Credits:** SGC: 8 CME Credits  
SSOT: 8 CME Credits
- Applications:** [www.fixateur-externe.ch](http://www.fixateur-externe.ch);  
Limited number of participants
- Course directors:** Prof. Dr. med. Frank J.P. Beeres, FEBS
- Sponsoring:** Stryker, Synbone and DePuy-Synthes