

# FELLOWSHIP IN ADVANCED ROBOTIC AND INNOVATIVE SURGERY



A CLINICAL ROBOTIC SURGERY FELLOWSHIP BY  
ASSOCIATION OF ROBOTIC AND INNOVATIVE SURGEONS



IN AFFILIATION WITH  
SRI RAMACHANDRA DEEMED UNIVERSITY



## SRI RAMACHANDRA

INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

(Category - I Deemed to be University) Porur, Chennai

# PROSPECTUS

# ARIS

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# FARIS

## **I. Introduction**

The clinical fellowship is to be known as “Fellowship in Advanced Robotic and Innovative Surgery (FARIS)“. The fellowship will be for a period of one year conducted through online and onsite curriculum. The onsite program will be conducted in various venues of choice by ARIS along with SRMC being one of the venues. The fellowship will be as per UGC guidelines and will be a recognized medical university degree with credit points.

The Fellowship committee formulates the syllabus and curriculum. All those members and non-members including international surgeons who fulfill the guidelines and criteria laid down by the Fellowship committee will be eligible to apply for the fellowship program. However, the candidate has to complete the ARIS membership formalities before applying for FARIS.

All certified “Center of Excellence” hospitals will be eligible to run the clinical fellowship mentorship program. The eligible candidate’s application will be forwarded to the respective participating hospital after registration. The candidate is expected to read and follow the guidelines below and submit all required documents online before the end of the term. Successful fellows will be felicitated and ceremonially offered fellowship in the convocation during the following Annual ARIS congress after the fellowship board’s clearance.

## **II. Core Curriculum for FARIS Clinical Fellowship Training**

### **A. CLINICAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE**

Fellows in the department are required to provide outstanding evidence based clinical care to robotic surgery patients while advancing the future of medicine through innovative research.

#### **i. Surgical Operation Requirements**

In order to meet the designation of comprehensive training, fellows must be exposed to more than one type of robotic surgery and participate in at least 100 hours of clinical exposure with a minimum of 25 robotic operations. The fellow should have assumed the role of operating surgeon in at least 10% of cases, defined as having performed the key components of the operation. There should be a minimum of 10 surgeries where the candidate is expected to have scrubbed and being a part of the floor, as deemed adequate by the program director to establish competence in managing surgeries including complications. Fellows should also have at least the basic exposure to minimal access surgery.

#### **ii. Evaluation Requirements**

The fellow will participate in 25 preoperative outpatient consults, 25 robotic surgical exposure, 25 postoperative in-patient management, and 30 postoperative outpatient follow-up evaluations. All the evaluation requirement must be documented in the logbook.

#### **iii. Performance Assessment Synopsis**

The Program Director will be responsible for conducting at least one fellow performance assessment interview and provide the FARIS committee with outcome of the meeting. See annex for performance assessment model.

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## **B. COGNITIVE EXPERIENCE**

In addition to the clinical and technical experience detailed above, it is expected that the fellow will also participate in non-surgical educational endeavours. These activities must be documented and validated by the Program Director.

### **i. Didactic Educational Sessions**

The fellow must document that they participated in all the meetings. Online Sign-Off Sheet can be used for this required documentation. The didactic sessions will include pre-recorded lectures, textbooks, robotic surgery review sessions, journal clubs and case discussions. All these sessions can be either online or onsite. See annex for online lecture schedules.

### **ii. Research Requirements**

Fellows are expected to conduct research and are expected to complete at least one clinical and/or research project during the fellowship and submit to FARIS project director. The research project need to be presented in the ARIS national conference or accepted for publication in the journal to which it will be submitted. See annexe for research assessment form.

### **iii. Multidisciplinary Requirements**

Fellows are expected to participate in regular robotic multidisciplinary meets. They also must attend a minimum of two regional / national / international conference / dedicated CME programmes during their fellowship tenure and at least one patient support group and one patient educational seminar every quarter. They may be required to submit certificates of attending such programmes (online / physical).

## **C. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Post MS / DNB General Surgery / Gynaecology / Otorhinolaryngology candidates with at least 2 years post degree experience having sufficient skills in basic minimal access surgery
- Post Mch / DNB surgical gastroenterology or qualification of any surgical speciality including oncosurgery, urology, cardiac surgery, thoracic surgery, head & neck surgery, endocrine surgery, or any other speciality utilising robotic platform having sufficient experience and skills in basic minimal access surgery.
- International Fellow - Completion of post-graduate training in relevant surgical speciality with at least 2 years post degree experience with sufficient skills in basic minimal access surgery. The PG training Institute must have a recognition of the medical board of the country equivalent to Indian post graduation.
- A fully completed application form with all required education and registration certificates.
- International students are required to apply for temporary registration through the program director's Centre of Excellence to be eligible to get admission for the course. This will help them with the clinical attachment and operating rights.
- Seats will be first-cum-first-serve basis with a maximum of 100 candidates per year inclusive of all specialities and not more than 25% share for each speciality.

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#### **D. FELLOWSHIP GUIDELINES**

- All certified “Center of Excellence” hospitals / institutions will be eligible to apply and run the clinical robotic fellowship program.
- A fully completed application form along with supporting documents of adequate qualification and experience to be submitted online.
- Candidates will be applying with 2 choices of available centres for clinical exposure post completion of theory and contact course. Once cleared, the candidate will be attending the institution for observership and training as per the core curriculum.
- The candidate is expected to submit his logbook online at regular intervals for assessment of the programme director. After the completion of the course, the FARIS committee will be assessing the logbook for final approval.
- The candidate will also be submitting his literature review and research articles by the end of the deadline after assessment of the project director.
- The fellow will be assessed based on his clinical performance by the program director, thesis by external examiners, theory and viva examination online, and abstract presentation at FARIS congress.
- Successful candidates will be felicitated and bestowed with SRIHER (Deemed to be University) affiliated ARIS Fellowship during the annual ARIS congress

#### **E. FELLOWSHIP PERIOD**

- A typical fellowship will be for one year duration with both onsite and offsite plan.
- The fellowship course will commence the day the candidate registers for the course.
- Onsite candidates will join the clinical team at the start of the course. Offsite candidate will be attending the COE institutions for clinical cases based on FARIS guidelines.
- The FARIS committee should be able to access the fellow’s completed logbook and the final online evaluation sheets to arrive at clearance of the course. Any delay beyond the deadline will not be entertained and the candidate will not be allowed to clear the course.
- Candidates who fail to complete the assessment on time will have to appear for an alternative date announced by the FARIS committee which will not be less than three months from the time off annual ARIS congress.

#### **F. EXAMINATION**

- Examination will be held either online or during annual ARIS conference or during the mid term conference/ CME. Examination will be theory based as multiple choice questions and viva by internationally renowned faculty
- All assessment materials like thesis and logbook will be submitted by the candidate online on or before the deadline for assessment.
- Scoring will be for a total of 500 marks. 100 marks for clinical performance at the program director’s COE, 100 marks for thesis / research, 100 marks for theory (MCQ), 100 marks for OSCE assessment, 50 marks for viva, and 50 marks for abstract presentation. All assessments will be done through virtual academy by the examiners including the theory and viva examination scoring.
- The student is expected to score 50% (350 / 500) to be eligible to graduate.
- The result will be announced at the end of abstract presentation session and the candidates will be elicited with convocation during the General Body Meeting of ARIS national conference.

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## **G. FEE STRUCTURE**

- The fellowship will attract an admission fee of Rs.1,50,000 plus GST. The candidate will also have to bear the university fee for university degree as fixed by SRIHER university.
- Repeat candidates need to re-apply for the failed module once the board approves.
- The remuneration for onsite candidates will depend on the COE institution and its program director's prerogative and ARIS is not responsible for the same.
- All clinical & research related materials (soft copy of textbooks and journal access) will be provided by ARIS and infrastructure (desk, library) will be provided the participating COE.
- All other expenses related to stationaries, accommodation, food, travel and conferences will be borne by the candidate themselves.

### **III. Module Details:**

The fellowship curriculum is divided into 4 modules as explained below with each module with a specific timeline and minimum hours of commitment required.

#### **A. Module 1 - Online Course**

The online course effectively starts from the day of joining the course by confirmation of submission of all documents and completion of payment. The candidate will be taking the Module 1 in two modes and a total of 50 hours of commitment with 30 hours for lectures and 20 hours of webinars. The candidate will be eligible for Module 2 only after completing the Module 1.

1. Lectures: All lectures will be a 30-40 minute pre-recording based on basic and speciality of choice followed by answering 10 MCQ's and score 7 out of 10 in each lecture before the candidate clears the entire module. See the list of basic lectures in Annexe 1. Speciality based lectures will be added in due course of time.
2. Webinars: Regular webinars on various topics including journal club, research, case discussions, literature and research review, etc. Minimum of 12 webinar will be conducted on Wednesdays 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm IST. Webinars will be accessed through the FARIS learning management system (LMS) and attendance is mandatory for all candidates.

#### **B. Module 2 - Contact Course**

Module 2 will be eligible only to candidates who complete Module 1. Contact course will be for 25 -30 hours (3 to 4 days of technical and cadaveric training, either continuous or in split sessions as the cadaver training is optional). The training program will be rotational for 2 days and platform and speciality based on the last day. The candidate will be subjected to objective clinical assessment at the end of the course. Contact course can be attended as a stand-alone workshop as well for additional training for interested candidates.

#### **C. Module 3 - Clinical Training**

Clinical training will be for a period of 9 months in one of the / multiple COE centres as per their availability under the program director and the candidate needs to clock a minimum of 100 hours of clinical time including 25 surgeries, 30 pre-op assessments, post-op rounds and 30 follow ups as explained in Clinical and Technical Experience. Two types of clinical training are available;

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1. Full-time: Candidates will join the clinical team at the start of the course. They will be a part of the COE institution under its program director as their mentor. The remuneration for onsite candidates will depend on the COE institution and its program director's prerogative and ARIS will not be responsible for the same.
2. Part-time: Candidates are predominantly practicing surgeons who doesn't want to break away from their routine practice and hence attend clinical training on a part time basis. The candidate will attend the COE institution for clinical cases on a regular basis fulfilling FARIS guidelines and as per the availability of surgeries at the desired COE.

The candidate will be maintaining a logbook online which will be available for assessment. The program director will also have a personal meeting to assess the clinical performance.

#### **D. Module 4 - Assessments**

Assessments are based on 6 various modes and each will be assessed by both national and international faculty. Every assessment model will be on a objective basis by an independent assessor without revealing the candidates identity and their COE program.

1. Clinical performance assessment will be done by the program director of the COE, the candidate attends for clinical training. This will carry 100 marks based on parameters like surgical skills, theory knowledge, bedside skills, problem solving, accountability, etc. It will be done at the end of the training period by online assessment.
2. Theory examination will be MCQ based online assessment with 100 questions. A total of 100 marks is allowed for the same. The theory can be conducted well in advance or during the ARIS pre-congress day.
3. Viva Examination will be a 30 minute interview either online or along with the theory examination during annual ARIS pre-congress. Viva carries 50 marks,
4. Hands-on course assessment using MCQ/OSCE examination based on 10 stations with candidate completing the task scheduled on time with a score of 100 marks.
5. Thesis will be a prospective clinical research or observation study on technical skills or short term outcome in robotic surgery based on the speciality. It carries 100 marks and will follow ARIS guidelines. The thesis should be submitted at least 15 days prior to the completion of the course online through the e-logbook.
6. Abstract Presentation will be a short 8 - 10 minute paper presentation during the ARIS annual conference / midterm conference which will be assessed by ARIS faculty digitally. Abstract presentation will carry 50 marks.

#### **IV. Robotic surgery Certificate courses**

##### **A. Certificate in Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery**

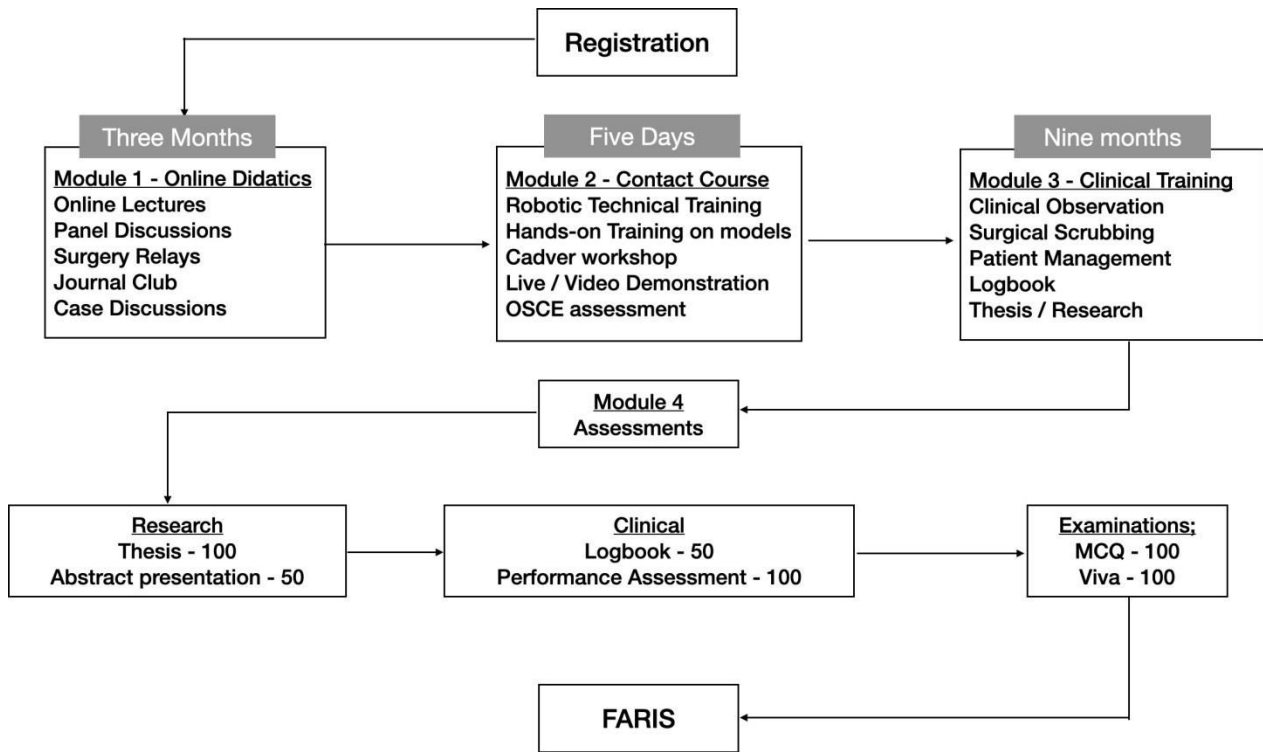
CARIS will be a three month training course which involves Module 1 & 2. The candidates will take up the modules along with fellowship candidates. Scoring will be based on OSCE on 10 stations with a score of 100 marks. Candidate with 70% clearance will be eligible for certification in Advanced Robotic and Innovative surgery.

##### **B. Certificate Course in Robotic Technology**

Certificate course is introduced for robotic surgeons with previous fellowship degree or practising robotic surgeons or certified robotic surgeon wanting to avail more hands-on exposure. It will effectively carry out Module 2 with a certificate of technical and hands-on training from ARIS.

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## V. Course Algorithm



## VI. Tariff:

Course	Period	Tariff	GST
Fellowship in Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery	1 year	₹ 150000 / \$ 2000	18%
Certificate in Advanced Robotic & Innovative Surgery	3 months	₹ 125000 / \$ 1700	18%
Certificate in Robotic Surgery Technology	5 days	₹ 75000 / \$ 1000	18%
Certificate in Clinical Robotic Surgery	3 months	₹ 50000 / \$ 800	18%

## VII. CONTACT

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