



Advanced MIS, Robotic & Ablation Society  
of Gynaecologists Malaysia

# **AMRAS – SAYGE Certification (ASC) Guideline**

Procedure: vNOTES  
(Vaginal Natural Orifice Transluminal  
Endoscopic Surgery)

*An up-to-date AMRAS Membership Subscription  
is compulsory in order to apply for certification*

**Prepared by: AMRAS**

The Advanced MIS, Robotic & Ablation Society of Gynaecologists Malaysia

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**Important Disclaimer:**

ASC Steps 1-3 and CCT are aimed at surgical training of candidate. ASC and certificate of completion of training (CCT) marks candidate's successful completion of stringent preset requirements by AMRAS to be awarded certificate as recognition to candidates' dedication and ability to perform said procedure(s) to satisfaction of expert surgeons/proctors in respective field(s). The certificates do not replace the need for individual credentialing and privileging of surgeon by his/her place of practice with approval of relevant hospital credentialing & privileging committee before performing said procedure(s).

**Current ASC vNOTES Proctors List**

- I. Dr Chua Peng Teng
- II. Dr Sundar Gungan Santhana Dass
- III. Dr Joanne Chuah Joo Ngor
- IV. Dr Tomonori Hada (Japan)
- V. Dr Celene Hui (Singapore)

**Expenses and Cost incurred to candidate:****1. Step 1 / Pre-Congress registration fee:**

RM1000 – For certification

RM500 – For observer only

**\*Pre-requisite to apply for step 1 certification: At least 10 cases of Laparoscopic Hysterectomy performed as 1<sup>st</sup> Surgeon**

**\*Minimum pass mark 80% in test to be awarded step 1 certificate**

*(For candidate who fail step1 – repeat/resit registration fee at RM500 for subsequent Step 1 course).*

**2. Step 2 Application Fee: RM1000**

**3. Step 3 Application Fee: RM 1000**

### **ASC Step 1: (Organised at AMRAS Annual Congress)**

Overview of Step 1 programme:

- Basic Science – Pelvic Anatomy in vNOTES
- Comprehensive overview and knowledge: Port placement, Port usage, overview and knowledge.
- Demonstration, Dry Lab hands on mannequin for vNOTES hysterectomy.

### **Theoretical Test / Written test – MCQ – pass mark 80/100**

#### **Award of Step 1 certificate**

- See attached Step 1 programme table (**Appendix 3**)

### **ASC Step 2**

Candidate apply in writing to AMRAS secretariat with step1 certificate + RM1000 application fee (payable to AMRAS)

AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman assigns proctor to candidate

#### **Candidate can then choose, either to:**

(i) Engage Proctor directly and make arrangements with proctor- i.e.: Proctor gets paid surgeon fee equivalent of procedure, proctor accommodation and travel covered by candidate. Candidate can make as many sessions to fulfill pass requirement as needed with proctor, by own arrangement.

(ii) Apply for AMRAS educational partner support: Educational partner offers educational contract/Letter of Agreement (LOA) to proctor (Proctor is paid by company's terms/ Fair Market Value). Educational partners may only cover ONE session for the candidate. Hence if candidate is unable to complete pass requirement for that step in 1 session, candidate will need to engage Proctor directly and make arrangements with proctor as per clause (i). Educational partner may also cover more than 1 session for candidate to complete requirements but this is subject to company rules of engagement which will vary.

**Proctor accepts/rejects contract from Education Partner**

**If accept contract** – proctor will inform/arrange with candidate in writing regarding venue, day and time of training to take place (Either at Proctor centre / candidate centre)

**If proctor rejects contract** – AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman to reassign suitable proctor or proctor to make own arrangement regarding honorarium/Logistic arrangement with candidate as per clause (i) and if both parties agree, to proceed after informing Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman in writing.

***Recommended 3-5 cases of actual surgery observation/ Assisting AMRAS recognized proctor***

**(Appendix 1: Candidate logbook)**

Logbook of procedures to be maintained by candidate

**(Appendix 2: Proctor report on candidate performance)** and whether Pass/Remedial needed to complete step 2

Proctors report on candidate performance, written assessment – these to be submitted to AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman for final approval.

***Once approved by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman - candidate is awarded step 2 certificate***

### **ASC Step 3**

Candidate apply in writing to AMRAS secretariat with step 1 and 2 certificate + RM1000 application fee (payable to AMRAS)

#### **\*Subsequent Flow similar to Step 2**

**Candidate can then choose, either to:**

(i) Engage Proctor directly and make arrangements with proctor- i.e.: Proctor gets paid surgeon fee equivalent of procedure, proctor accommodation and travel covered by candidate. Candidate can make as many sessions to fulfill pass requirement as needed with proctor, by own arrangement.

(ii) Apply for AMRAS educational partner support: educational partner offers educational contract/Letter of Agreement (LOA) to proctor (Proctor is paid by company's terms/ Fair Market Value). Educational partners may only cover ONE session for the candidate. Hence if candidate is unable to complete pass requirement for that step in 1 session, candidate will need to engage Proctor directly and make arrangements with proctor as per clause (i). Educational partner may also cover more than 1 session for candidate to complete requirements but this is subject to company rules of engagement which will vary.

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**If accept contract** – proctor will inform/arrange with candidate in writing regarding venue, day and time of training to take place (Either at Proctor centre/ candidate centre)

**If proctor rejects contract** – AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman to reassign suitable proctor or proctor to make own arrangement regarding honorarium/Logistic arrangement with candidate as per clause (i) and if both parties agree, to proceed after informing Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman in writing.

***Recommended 3-5 cases of actual surgery performed under supervision and assessment of AMRAS recognized proctor***

#### **(Appendix 1: Candidate logbook)**

Logbook of procedures to be maintained by candidate

**(Appendix 2: Proctor report on candidate performance)** and whether Pass/Remedial needed to complete step 3

Proctors report on candidate performance, written assessment – these to be submitted to AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman for final approval.

***Once approved by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman - candidate is awarded step 3 certificate***

**NOTE: Exemptions:****Exemption from Step 1:**

Candidates may apply to Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman in writing to request for exemption from step 1 and Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman will decide if candidate can be exempted based on prior qualifications/demonstrable track record, or if candidate has passed relevant basic tests or courses organised by equivalent society for vNOTES which is equivalent to (AMRAS ASC Step1 content).

***\*Decision by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman is final.***

**Exemption from Step 2:**

Candidates are allowed to skip Step 2 and directly proceeding to Step 3 certification process provided candidate demonstrates confidence and ability to perform procedure as primary surgeon under supervision to proctor, and proctor supervises candidate as per step 3 protocol.

**Exemption from achieving recommended 3-5 cases required for Step 3**

If proctor deems candidate is ready / qualified to be passed for step 3 of certification despite not achieving recommended case numbers of 3-5, based on case to case basis, proctor to write in to Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman and recommend as such and final decision will be made by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman whether candidate is allowed to be passed for said step without adequate case numbers.

***\*Decision by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman is final.***

**For candidates who are not able to complete required case numbers for step 3 in presence of proctor in 1 setting:**

Candidate to request to proctor for below: (Subject to Proctor Approval)

Candidate records every unedited videos of surgery performed + logbook of procedures and submit to assigned proctor for evaluation (to reach recommended numbers of at least 3-5 cases or to satisfaction of assigned proctor)

## **Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) in vNOTES**

Is awarded to candidate who have completed step 1 – 3 with demonstration of confidence & competency in performing said procedure (AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman will receive assigned proctor recommendations, vet candidate performance and award CCT to candidate)

**\*Decision by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman is final.** Candidates who are deemed not successful in certification will need to resit all or part of Steps 1 -3 based on recommendation by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman to be considered for award CCT in another attempt.

***\*CCT in vNOTES is part of requirement for candidates of FMIGS AMRAS UKM who would like to pursue AMIGS AMRAS-UKM.***

***\*To be awarded AMIGS, both CCT in vNOTES and Robotic Surgery required***

### **Proctors in vNOTES programme:**

Doctors who have satisfactorily completed ASC Step 1-3 vNOTES and obtained CCT vNOTES by AMRAS, after completion of 50 cases performed as primary surgeon will be eligible to be elected by AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman to act as proctors.

Doctors who do not undergo the ASC training programme and certification but deemed qualified to be proctors based on track-record, demonstrable qualifications/experience may be considered by Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman on case-to-case basis to be elected as proctor for procedure.

## Appendix 1

Candidate Log Book

ASC Programme: vNOTES

Step 2 / Step 3

Date	Patient RN	Diagnosis	Procedure	Candidate status (O/A/P)	Remarks / Others

**O** - Observed

**A** - Assisted Proctor

**P** - Performed under supervision as primary surgeon

Proctor's Signature

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Name:

Designation:

Date: ..... / ..... / ..... (day/month/year)



## Appendix 2:

Proctor Report on Candidate Performance (Confidential)

ASC Programme: vNOTES

Step 2 / 3

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate IC/RN: \_\_\_\_\_

### ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND FULFILLMENT OF TASKS, ABILITY TO SAFELY PERFORM PROCEDURE AS SURGEON

<b>SUPERVISOR ASSESSMENT</b>	
	PASS (P) / REMEDIAL NEEDED (R)
<b>Motivation, sense of duty, discipline, punctuality</b>	
<b>Technical skills</b>	
<b>Integrated Knowledge on Procedure</b>	
<b>Relationship with medical and other staffs</b>	
<b>Completed required case numbers</b>	
<b>Comprehensive Knowledge or demonstration of ability to manage difficult situations / Complications that may arise</b>	
<b>Ability to carry out procedure safely as primary surgeon</b>	
<b>Adequate record keeping/ consent taking</b>	

Note: Candidate must Pass in all categories to pass the particular step of assessment

Other comments/ recommendation from proctor for remedial (if any) by candidate:

\_\_\_\_\_

Proctor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Designation:

Date: ..... / ..... / ..... (day/month/year)

### Appendix 3

#### ASC Step 1 vNOTES Workshop programme overview and schedule

Time	Topic	Faculty	Note
07:30-08:00	Registration		
08:00-08:15	Introduction to vNOTES pre-congress		
08:15 -08:45	Female Pelvic Anatomy: The vNOTES perspective		
08:45-09:45	vNOTES Hysterectomy		1) Vaginal approach 2) Gel point set up 3) Laparoscopic part
09:45-10:15	vNOTES ovarian surgery		1) Vaginal approach 2) Gel point set up 3) Cystectomy and oophorectomy
10:15-12:45	Live Surgery/ Surgery video demonstration		
12:45-13:00	Potential Complications / Troubleshooting in vNOTES		
13:00-14:00	Lunch		
14:00-14:30	Stations and Briefing Faculty demonstration on mannequin		
14:30-16:00	Hands on vNOTES stations: Hysterectomy		
16:00-16:45	Exam-Post Test		
16:45-17:00	Evaluations by examiners		
17:00-17:30	Closing, Award of certificate: AMRAS SAYGE step 1 vNOTES certificate		

## APPLICATION FORM

AMRAS – SAYGE Certification (ASC)  
Vaginal Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery  
vNOTES Programme

### 1. Applicant Details

Full Name	:	_____
NRIC/Passport No.	:	_____
AMRAS Member ID.	:	_____ (AMRAS-XX-XXXX)
Medical Registration No.	:	_____
Hospital / Institution	:	_____
Designation	:	_____
Email Address	:	_____
Mobile Number	:	_____
Mailing Address	:	_____
_____		
_____		

### 2. Application Type (Please tick the appropriate box)

#### Step 1: vNOTES Workshop

- ☐ First-time Registration – RM 1000
- ☐ Resit (Repeat Candidate) – RM 500
- ☐ **Step 2:** Proctorship Observation/Assistance – RM 1000
- ☐ **Step 3:** Supervised Performance Assessment – RM 1000

### 3. Documents Checklist

- ☐ Curriculum Vitae (CV) (for Step 1 application)
- ☐ Proof of Payment (bank slip)
- ☐ Application Form
- ☐ Step 1 Certificate (for Step 2 application)
- ☐ Step 2 Certificate (for Step 3 application)
- ☐ Logbook (for Step 2)
- ☐ Logbook (for Step 3)
- ☐ Completed Proctor Report (if applicable)

#### 4. Payment Information

Payment must be made to:

Account Name: AMRAS OF GYNAECOLOGISTS MALAYSIA  
Bank: UOBM JALAN AMPANG  
Bank Address: CITIBANK TOWER, 165, JALAN AMPANG, 50450,  
KUALA LUMPUR  
MYR Account No.: 560-300-576-8  
USD Account No.: 560-900-381-3  
Swift Code: UOVBMYKL

#### 5. Declaration

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for participation in the ASC vNOTES Programme as specified above. I declare that the information provided is accurate and complete. I agree to comply with the requirements and terms set by AMRAS and understand that the decision of the AMRAS Advanced MIS Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman is final.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

NRIC/Passport No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit Completed Application To:

#### AMRAS Secretariat

Email: secretariat@amras.org.my  
Phone: +6012 211 3342  
Address: Level 2, Women's Clinic, 110, Jalan Professor Khoo Kay Kim,  
Seksyen 19, 46300 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia  
Website: www.amras.org.my