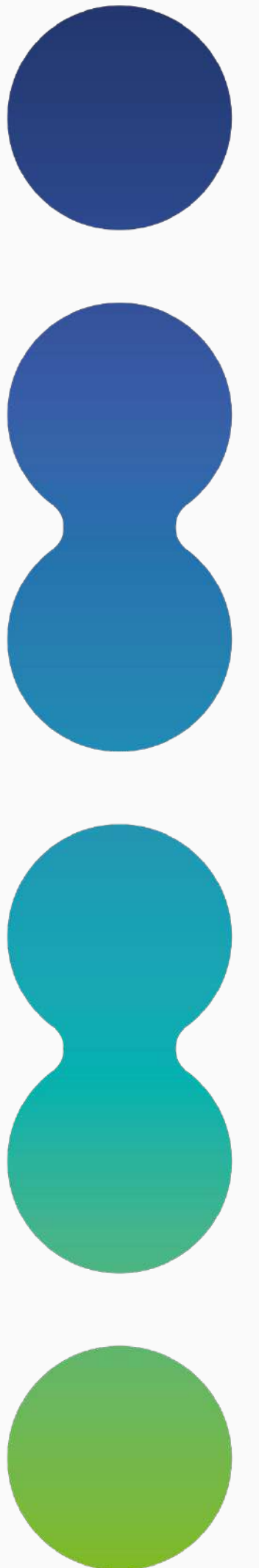


# ESHRE accreditation of training in Clinical Embryology



[www.eshre.eu](http://www.eshre.eu)  
European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology





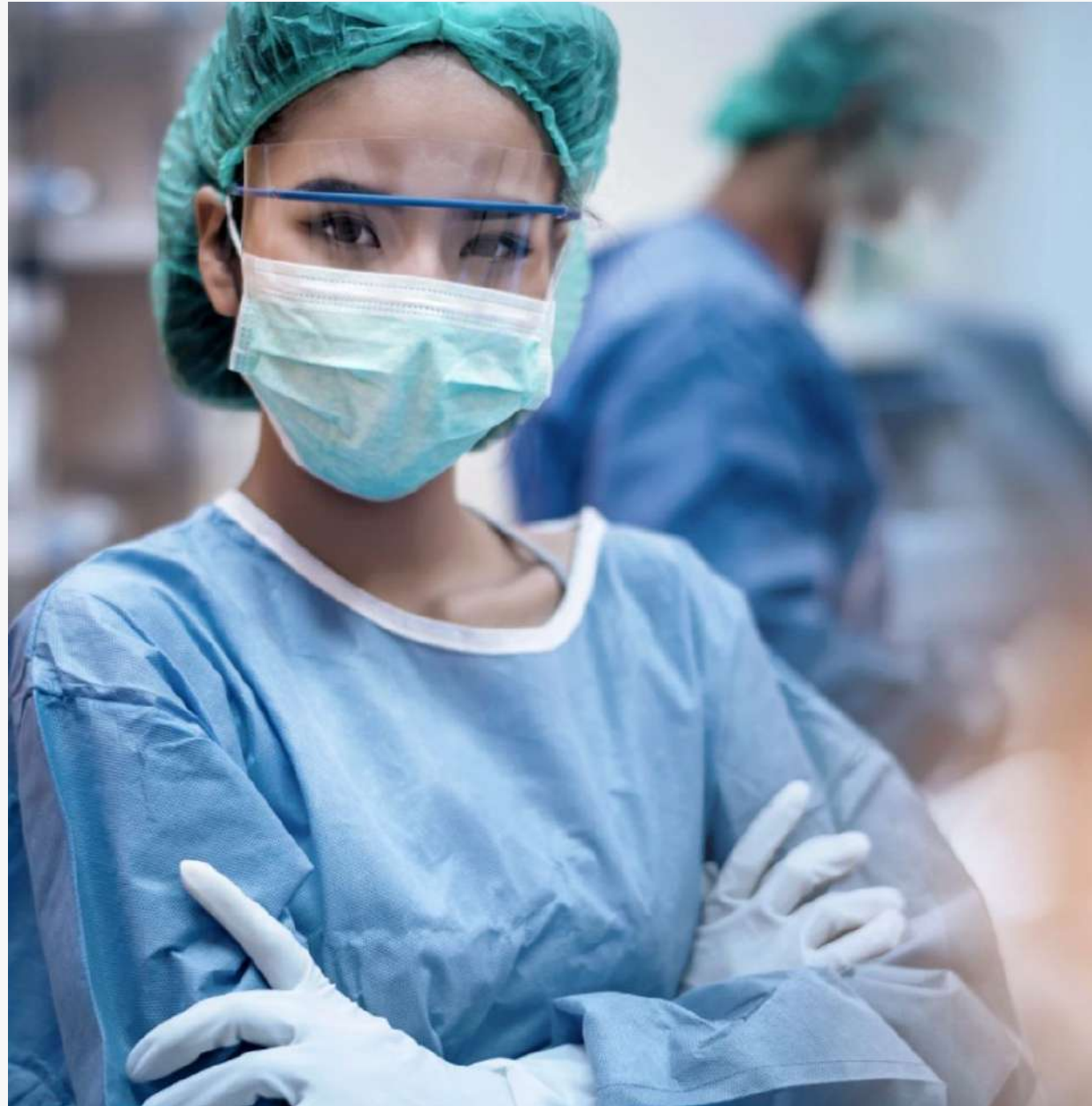
# Background:



- more than 7000 lab professionals working in MAR in Europe
- without formal status and training in a Health care system for more than 40 years



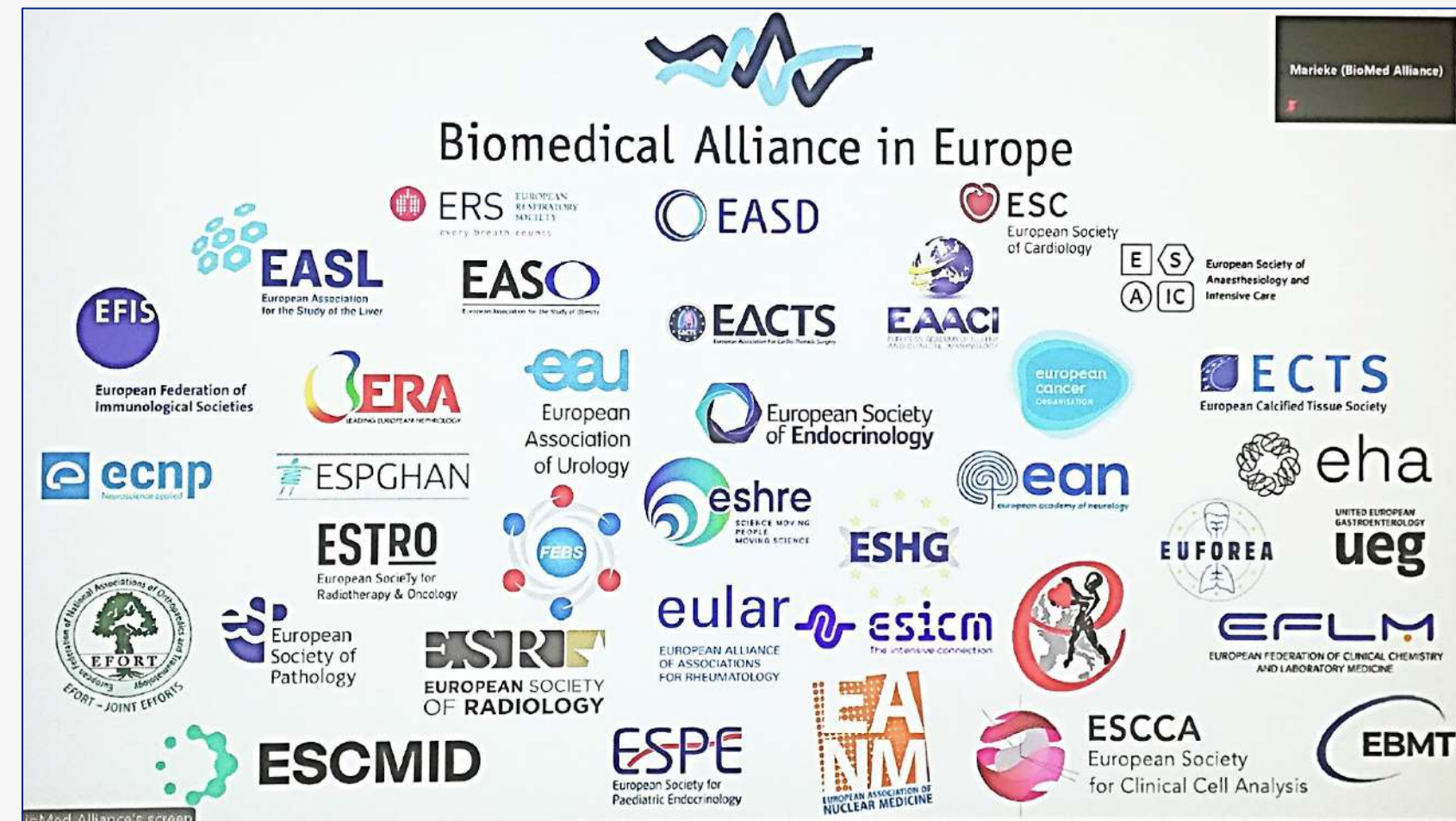
# Working in a Health system means:



- working under strict rules
- understanding Health system hierarchies
- working with a high level of responsibility
- working outside normal working hours / days
- to be subjected to a long theoretical & practical training to autonomy at work



# Can Embryologists be Health Professionals?



- Yes, if they acquire skills through formally organised educational programme



# What is organised education in a Health system?

- **CURRICULUM** - list of theoretical topics
- **SYLLABUS** - programme of practical training
- **LOGBOOK** - records of each single event
- **TRAINER** - experienced supervisor
- **ACCREDITED TRAINING PROVIDERS** - fulfilling criteria for training centre
- **VERIFICATION OF SKILLS / KNOWLEDGE** - evaluation of skills by trainer, objective structured clinical examination
- **MAINTAINING A COMPETENCE** - continuing professional development (CPD)
- **LICENCING** – giving a permission from competent authority to work





# Accreditation of education for EU Health system

**EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**  
*The advocate of medical specialists*



Approves training programmes (syllabus, curriculum and logbook) that have been prepared by specialist sections

**COUNCIL OF  
EUROPEAN SPECIALIST MEDICAL ASSESSMENT**



Accredits specialist examinations provided by sections  
Accredits examination in Clinical Embryology



**EUROPEAN BOARD AND COLLEGE  
OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY  
(EBCOG)**



Accredits centres for specialist training in Ob & Gyn



Accredits centres for subspecialist training in Reprod Med  
Accredits centres for training in Clinical Embryology





- Harmonization of post-graduate education for healthcare professionals
  - Promotion excellence in medical education



# ESHRE accreditation of centres for training in Clinical Embryology

## Accreditation for centres

### ESHRE / EBCOG

Centre accreditation of subspecialist training programme in reproductive medicine



[Click here](#)

### ESHRE

Centre accreditation of training programme in Clinical Embryology



Coming soon

## Aim

- to harmonise practical training and skill testing of Clinical Embryologists according to the prescribed standards (in syllabus), based on the example of the already existing ESHRE / EBCOG subspecialisation programme in Reproductive Medicine for clinicians
- to establish two complementary training accreditation programmes



# Application for ESHRE accredited training centre

## ● Core training

## ● Core & advanced training

- Applications should contain:
  - a. Provision of acceptable annual statistics (results of the clinic)
  - b. Existing internal quality control and audit
  - c. Organised teaching sessions
  - d. ESHRE prescribed training of trainees in Clinical Embryology already in place
  - e. Availability of:
    - Multidisciplinary team
    - Andrology laboratory
    - Laboratory for IVF/ICSI and embryo morphology assessment
    - Cryo-laboratory
    - Optional: Genetic laboratory
    - Research activity
    - Fulfilment of defined criteria for minimum clinical / laboratory activity



# Syllabus

## ● Basic level training (3 years)

1. Basic principles of working aseptically in a medical laboratory for ART
2. Laboratory equipment & operation
3. Semen analysis
4. Sperm processing for ART
5. Oocyte processing for ART
6. Oocyte insemination via conventional IVF
7. ICSI
8. Embryo culture, evaluation of fertilisation & embryo development
9. Embryo transfer
10. Cryopreservation



# Syllabus

## ● Advanced level training (additional 3 years)

1. Cell, tissue & embryo cryobanking
2. Maturation in vitro of reproductive cells (optional)
3. Micromanipulation on embryo (biopsy) & genetic analysis (optional)
4. Laboratory set-up
5. Preparation of laboratory results & counselling
6. Managing ART laboratory & cryobank
7. Research, statistics & audit
8. Teaching
9. Ethical & legal aspects
10. Continuing Professional Development



# Tutorial

## Criteria for tutors:

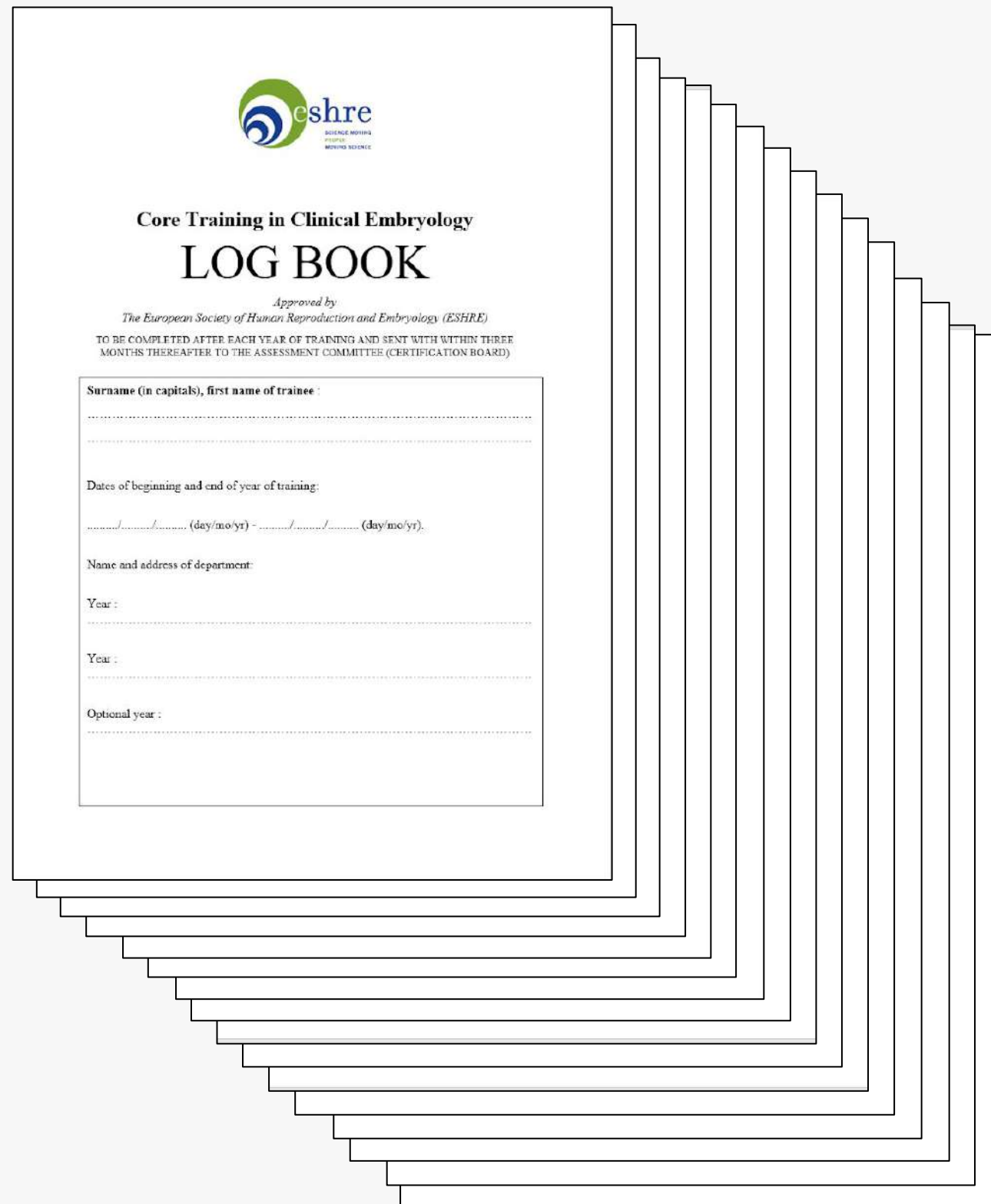
1. experienced ESHRE-certified Clinical (for the core training only)
2. experienced ESHRE-certified Senior Clinical Embryologist (for core & advanced training)
3. proven CPD
4. appointed as a Tutor (training programme manager)
5. Tutor accepts the main responsibility for Trainee supervision & is actively involved
6. Tutor will become authorised by ESHRE to coordinate the training programme (alternatively by assigning supervisors)



# Logbooks and tutorial

The same format as accreditation of training programme for clinicians

- Core training
- Core & advanced training



### EVALUATION OF LABORATORY AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Every target defined in the ESHRE recommendation on training and assessment has an expected competence level that must be achieved. The level of competence ranges from observation (level 1) to independent practice (level 4 or 5).

*Many of the targets do not require an assessment of every competence level and shaded boxes indicate these. Trainees can choose whether or not to tick the shaded boxes as they progress.*

*Certain targets do not require the trainee to be level 5 (Independent). These are identified by a black box. The open targets require your tutor or trainer to check your competence and sign you off. When you feel ready for this it is your responsibility to organise with your tutor, for these targets to be observed. When an entire module is completed (excluding black boxes) request the educational supervisor to sign the completed module.*

**SCORING SYSTEM:**

- 1 : Passive attendance, assistance
- 2 : Needs close supervision
- 3 : Able to carry out procedure under some supervision
- 4 : Able to carry out procedure without supervision
- 5 : Able to supervise and teach the procedure

The general aim is to get at least mark 4.

### I. BASIC PRINCIPLES IN ART LABORATORY

Target	Expected competence level					Supervisor sign when competence level achieved	
	Trainee ticks when achieved					Name / Sign	Date
	1	2	3	4	5		
Maintaining lab hygiene standards							
Maintaining lab safety standards							
Troubleshooting in basic principles							

**Trainee signature to confirm completion of the module:**

**Name and signature of the tutor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Clinic:** \_\_\_\_\_

### NUMBER OF PROCEDURES PERFORMED DURING THE TRAINING

PROCEDURES	YEAR	YEAR	YEAR	TOTAL
	1	2	3	
Basic semen analysis (min 50 per year)				
Extended semen analysis (DNA fragmentation, HBA, etc.)				
Ejaculated sperm preparation (min 50 per year)				
Preparation of frozen / thawed sperm (min 10 per year)				
Preparation of viral-positive semen				
Preparation of retrograde ejaculation sample				
Preparation of totally immotile sperm (including viability testing, e.g. HOS)				
Preparation of epididymal / testicular sperm for ART				
Conventional IVF (min 20 per year)				
ICSI with ejaculated sperm (min 50 per year)				
ICSI with testicular / epididymal sperm (min 5 per year)				
ICSI with artificial oocyte activation				
Cycles with evaluated oocyte fertilization (min 50 per year)				
Cycles with evaluated embryo morphology (min 50 per year)				
Embryo transfer (min 50 per year)				
Sperm cryopreservation (min 10 per year)				
Sperm thawing				
Testicular sperm cryopreservation - optional				
Testicular sperm thawing - optional				
Oocyte vitrification				
Embryo cryopreservation – vitrification (min 20 per year)				
Oocyte, embryo thawing / warming (min 20 per year)				





# Assessment of training, facilities, tutors

## ● Core training

## ● Core & advanced training

1. Site visits by 2 ESHRE assessors after application is accepted
2. Reassessment in case of missing points after 2 years
3. Reaccreditation will be performed every 5 years
4. Evaluation of the training by interviewing tutors & trainees



# Options



## MAR centres

1. Apply to become an accredited training centre
2. Register your tutor and trainees
3. Motivate trainees to apply for ESHRE exam
4. Motivate trainees to collect CPD credits
5. Send logbooks for verification
6. Enable your embryologists to acquire ESHRE diploma

## Trainees

## National Societies



SLOVENSKO ZDRUŽENJE ZA  
REPRODUKTIVNO MEDICINO  
SLOVENSKEGA ZDRAVNIŠKEGA DRUŠTVA





# ESHRE diploma in Clinical Embryology





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European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology

## Centre accreditation of training programme in clinical embryology (ATCE)



This webinar shows how you can now seek to have your MAR centre accredited as a formal ESHRE training facility for Clinical Embryologists and how those trainees embryologists can achieve an official diploma of their practical skills.

 Webinar

 15 September 2025