



**James HK, Gregory RJH.** The dawn of a new competency-based training era: a 70-year perspective on post-graduate training reform in trauma and orthopaedic surgery. *Bone Jt Open*. 2021;2(3):181–190.

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**Authors' reply:**

*Sir,*

We thank Galasko et al for their interest in and detailed analysis of our paper.<sup>1</sup> We appreciate that their account of those areas not covered adds to the overall understanding of the history of the development of orthopaedic training.

Any paper with such wide-ranging aims as ours risks omitting areas of importance, and while our paper focused on the wider political background which drove training reform in trauma and orthopaedics (T&O), we acknowledge that this was at the expense of providing precise details of the structural changes clearly laid out by Galasko et al, relating particularly to the development of the Syllabus, the development of the E-logbook and the development of the methods of assessment pivotal to the first T&O curriculum of 2007. We acknowledge the erroneous omission of any specific reference in our paper to this and subsequent curricula, and are grateful for this being drawn to the reader's attention.

We wrote the paper in good faith with the dual aims of a) providing a summary of the key political drivers for post-graduate surgical training reform, and b) describing and contextualizing the new 2021 curriculum, where an accessible summary was otherwise lacking. Readers will note that the length of the response letter is essentially a full article in its own right, illustrating the difficulties in attempting to cover every detail of 70 years of training reform in a single article.

Any narrative review of history is, by necessity, presented through the individual lens of the authors. The wealth of additional details provided by Galasko et al are a helpful adjunct to our paper and, taken together, provide a richer and more detailed history for the reader. The writers have a unique perspective which most of us can only admire, and their input is welcomed.

Recent events have reinforced the value of their contribution to orthopaedic training. The E-logbook, for example, has been instrumental in understanding and publicizing the impact of Covid-19 on orthopaedic training and will help shape the training recovery. Indeed, without the robust evidence

that can be extracted from the E-logbook, the advocates for recovery would have to rely on little more than anecdotes to support their cause.

The 2021 curriculum represents the natural progression of a document that, when first published in 2007, provided the foundations of a training system proven to be of great value. We recognize and appreciate the role of all those involved with its creation and that of its subsequent editions, and we regret that this sentiment, albeit unintentionally, has not been conveyed within our paper.

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1. **James HK, Gregory RJH.** The dawn of a new competency-based training era: a 70-year perspective on post-graduate training reform in trauma and orthopaedic surgery. *Bone Jt Open.* 2021;2(3):181–190.