## EyeSi

## **Cataract Surgery Training Programme**

The Eyesi® virtual training project is part of a comprehensive cataract surgery training programme for residents and interested ophtalmologists. This initiative will be coordinated by Collegium Ophthalmologicum Belgicum (COB), an AOB workgroup that unites the Belgian university professors, in collaboration with BSCRS, BOG and SBO.

The annual training programme will have its official launch in October at the start of the next academic year. It will consist of theoretical online educational courses, virtual training on the Eyesi Surgical Simulator as well as wetlabs and 2-monthly sessions with interactive discussions on surgical videos and clinical cases. The university mentors responsible for the residency programme have decided to provide these courses systematically to their 2<sup>nd</sup> year trainees; a transition phase will be available for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year residents. Ophthalmologists are welcome to join the the curriculum for the full course or for the virtual training only.

The integration of the Eyesi simulator into the cataract surgery training programme provides a new opportunity for colleagues in the learning curve of phako surgery.

The highly realistic simulation of interaction with tissue in real-time increases trainees' surgical experience without risk for patients. The pre-installed curriculum



provides a structured approach to simulator training and consists of repetitive practice of specific skills, which leads trainees step-by-step to proficiency in cataract surgery. Evidence shows that a total of 38% fewer posterior capsule ruptures occurred in cataract operations performed by young residents if they had been training on the Eyesi simulator. With the additive theoretical courses and wetlabs, we will try to do even better and prepare our young colleagues for their future surgery career.

The training programme is centralized at ORSI, Proefhoevestraat 12, 9090 Melle, located along the E40 motorway and easily accessible by car. The ORSI training center for robotic surgery has a widely acclaimed experience in surgery training for different medical subspecialties working with a dedicated staff.



Interested residents should contact the educator of the university that is coordinating their residency to join the programme.

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 $Residents\ of\ universities\ not\ actively\ involved\ in\ the\ training\ programme\ or\ ophthalmologists$ wanting to expand their skills, can contact Guy Sallet – dr.sallet@ooginstituut.be – acting as independent mentor for the working group and representative of BSCRS.





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