

Certification in Maternal Fetal Medicine (CMFM) Assessment of Procedural Skills (APS) General Information



The Royal Australian
and New Zealand
College of Obstetricians
and Gynaecologists
Excellence in Women's Health

What is Assessment of Procedural Skills (APS)?

APS is the assessment of specific skills observed by an assessor while the trainee performs day-to-day procedures in their work place. As such, it provides a breadth of clinical experiences in which the trainee can display their skill set and multiple opportunities in which to demonstrate those skills. APS can be taken formatively, which enables the trainee to receive feedback to assist in skill improvement as well as a requirement for summative assessment, which contributes to the trainee's successful completion of their Subspecialist training.

When are APS undertaken?

APS can be undertaken any time a trainee is performing one of the two (2) nominated procedures and have a suitable Assessor in attendance and able to complete the assessment form. Formative assessments should be undertaken to help identify areas requiring further improvement and build toward the successful completion of an APS which will constitute the Summative assessment. It is suggested that a trainee have multiple blank APS forms ready for use whenever there is a suitable clinical case and/or appropriate assessor available.

Who can assess the APS?

Any Fellow of the College who holds a Certificate in MFM (including the Training Supervisor), COGU or the Diploma in Diagnostic Ultrasound (DDU) may act as an APS assessor.

How many APS must a trainee undertake?

There is no limit to the number of formative APS that a trainee can undertake as they develop their skill set. Only one (1) Summative assessment is required for each procedure.

What level of performance is required to successfully complete an APS?

To be deemed 'Competent' in a Summative APS the trainee must score a minimum ranking of 7-9 in all listed skill areas.

What procedures need to be assessed via an APS?

There are two (2) procedures that must be completed by a trainee during their three year training program. These procedures are:

1. Amniocentesis
2. Chorionic Villus Sampling (CVS)

What happens with the APS assessment forms?

A copy of each completed Formative and Summative assessment forms should be shown to the Training Supervisor at the very next six-monthly assessment. The Training Supervisor will sign both the Formative and Summative assessments as completed on the CMFM Master Sheet. The trainee must keep each Formative assessment completed in their DTR and send a copy of the Summative assessment along with the Master Sheet and TAR to Subspecialties Services, College House.