



Coimbra, 2026-06-17

Dear colleague,

A new **Emergency Surgery Course** (ESC, AAST/ESTES) is being organised and is due to take place on the 1st and 2nd October 2026 in Viana do Castelo, Portugal, aboard 'Gil Eannes', the former hospital ship that supported the Portuguese cod-fishing fleet in the North Sea.

I am therefore taking the liberty of asking for your co-operation in publicising the event among your close colleagues, especially seniors and residents from the last three years, given its advanced nature. For replies, please use my personal email address, mesquita.carlos@sapo.pt.

As in previous editions, the course will last two days, during which, under the guidance of accredited emergency surgeons, topics such as the following will be covered interactively and supported by concrete clinical cases:

- Abdominal sepsis
- Appendicitis
- Intestinal obstruction
- Cholecystitis
- Colorectal emergencies
- Gastrointestinal haemorrhage
- Esophageal perforations
- Mesenteric ischaemia
- Obstetric and gynaecological emergencies
- Open abdomen
- Necrotizing Soft-Tissue Infections
- Pancreatitis
- Peptic ulcer
- Post-operative complications
- Radiology in emergency surgery
- Spontaneous haemoperitoneum

The early afternoon on the second day will be dedicated to evaluations, and the course is scheduled to finish around 3pm.

The course will be face-to-face, for 24 candidates, and registration, priced at **€450**, will entitle you to a copy of '**The AAST/ESTES Emergency Surgery Course Handbook - A Practical Reference In Expecting The Unexpected**', coordinated by Andrew (Andy) Peitzman, as well as catering for the course.

Bank transfer, to cover the ESC registration fee,

- must be made to the **IBAN, PT50 0007 0229 0000 3180 0003 3**, held by **ALTEC** (*Associação Lusitana de Trauma e Emergência Cirúrgica* / Lusitanian Association for Trauma and Emergency Surgery), and
- should mention the candidate's name and surgical career status;
- If the course capacity is exceeded, ALTEC will immediately proceed to **refund** any excess payments.

Until the **31th of July**, the order in which payments are received (by bank transfer) will be taken into account, but priority will be given to 1) consultants, 2) specialists and 3) residents from the last three years; from then on, only the order in which payments arrive will be taken into account.

Without further ado, and thanking you in advance for any help you can offer in promoting the course, please accept my best regards.

Carlos Mesquita

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Former President of the Lusitanian Association for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ALTEC)
Former President of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)
Member of the Emergency Surgery Subspecialty Steering Committee of the Portuguese Medical Association (Ordem dos Médicos)
Member of the AAST/ESTES Emergency Surgery Course Steering Committee*