

FUSIC® HD: Training Details

(Updated January 2026)

Table of Contents

Details of Training Pathway	2
1. Prerequisites	2
2. Identification of a Trainer	2
3. Trainers	2
4. Registration with ICS	3
5. Completion of online training	3
6. Attendance on an approved course	3
7. Supervised practice and completion of logbook	4
8. Assessment of competence	5
9. Maintenance of competence after accreditation	5

Details of Training Pathway

1. Prerequisites

- Independent competence in history taking, physical examination, interpreting clinical investigations, and understanding of disease processes in critically ill patients, **and...**
- Accreditation in FUSIC® Heart **or** BSE Level 1 or FEEL **and...**
- Accreditation in FUSIC® Lung **or** FAMUS

Please note: the requirement for accreditation in abdominal ultrasound has been removed.

2. Identification of a Trainer

There are several ways to do this:

- If you cannot identify a local FUSIC HD® approved Trainer yourself, then please contact the [ICS learning team](#) who will be able to direct you to one.
- Ask someone local to apply. You may nominate a clinically qualified colleague who holds the appropriate accreditation and relevant experience to act as your Trainer. However, they must **apply and be approved as an official FUSIC® Trainer**. Application is easy using a simple form that can be accessed via the [ICS website](#). Definitions, roles and responsibilities of a FUSIC® HD Trainer are all outlined below.
- Remote supervision. It is ideal to have a local Trainer to help develop your practical skills and support your clinical practice going forward. However, we recognise that this is not always possible and remote supervision may be necessary. Cloud-based archiving and review systems, such as those found at www.hocuspocus.org, or sonoclipshare.com may facilitate this.

3. Trainers

Requirements:

Your Trainer may be any healthcare professional with suitable experience, expertise and regular practice in intensive care ultrasound.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria: Accredited in **FUSIC® HD** for at least 12 months **OR BSE level 2 or equivalent OR intensivist with EDEC OR cardiologist with regular echo sessions**

Application must be made and approved by the ICS. **HD Trainer application forms** are available on the [ICS website](#).

Responsibilities:

- To enable you to access to a suitable ultrasound machine and acutely ill patients
- To teach you and review your logbook cases

- To directly supervise 20 complete scans
- To identify local experts for review of difficult cases and ongoing clinical support
- To sign-off your competencies and recommend you for the final practical examination
- To sign your summary training record to confirm that you have satisfactorily completed all the training components

4. Registration with ICS

Registration is an essential way to ensure that you are kept up to date with all aspects of the accreditation. It will also enable you to freely access our online learning resources and up to date training materials and guidance. We therefore recommend that you register at the beginning of your learning.

To register:

- Go to [the FUSIC® HD module page](#).
- Click on the “add to basket” button.
- Register and pay. Note: the cost includes registration as well as all e-learning content, and a certificate of accreditation at the end of the training.
- Upon registration, you will receive an email providing details of what the next steps are. This can sometimes take up to 48 hours.
- Once registered, your access to all accreditation-related content will last for exactly 24 months, after which your registration will expire.

If you experience any problems, please email learning@ics.ac.uk

5. Completion of online training

E-learning is available on the ICS Learning Portal ([FUSIC® Portal](#)) after registration for FUSIC® HD accreditation. We will encourage learners to access this prior to attending a course or starting their logbooks.

6. Attendance on an approved course

To complete the FUSIC® HD module you must either complete the **online video lectures** or an **ICS-approved FUSIC® HD course**. Attendance of an ICS-approved FUSIC® HD course is recommended but not mandatory.

The Society maintains a list of approved courses on its website [ICS-Approved FUSIC® Courses](#)

7. Supervised practice and completion of logbook

All training documents, such as the reporting forms, logbook, competency sign offs, and Summary of Training (STR) form, can be downloaded from the [FUSIC® Portal](#) as soon as your FUSIC® registration and enrolment have been approved.

Logbook requirements:

- Minimum supervised scans – **20** (these do not have to be the first 20 scans or be contiguous)
- Minimum total – **50**
- Case mix – no more than **10** normal scans, see further guidance below
- Suitable and legible information ensuring no patient identifiable data

Supervised cases: Direct supervision is an essential part of the training process. A minimum number of **20 supervised scans** are required, but we encourage as much direct supervision as possible throughout your logbook collection period. This number is twice that of FUSIC® Heart because the scope of HD is broader and deeper.

Unsupervised cases: Any scans you undertake without direct supervision should be stored for review by your Trainer(s). Your training studies must not be stored in the clinical record or used for clinical decision-making until someone suitably trained has verified them.

Timeline: Learning must take place in the real world and we acknowledge that the FUSIC® HD accreditation process may take up to **24 months** from **registration to completion**. However, we strongly believe that to combat skill fade and ensure adequate uptake of knowledge, skills and attitudes the logbook collection period (from **first scan to last scan**) should be no more than **12 months**. Consequently, these dates will be recorded and monitored closely. Applications to extend this logbook collection period may be considered under exceptional circumstances, in which case you should contact the [ICS learning team](#) at least **4 weeks** prior to the expiry of your **12-month** logbook window to request an extension.

Case-mix: A demonstrable range of pathology is essential. Fundamentally, logbook studies should be from unwell patients. It is acceptable to include multiple scans from the same patient if their clinical or radiological picture has changed. However, no more than **10%** of logbook studies should be on healthy volunteers. Examinations undertaken during an approved course **do not count** towards the logbook. Courses are important; real-life learning opportunities more so. All FUSIC® HD views should be attempted in each scan. We recognise adequate images are not always possible in each view and that there may be missing views in some scans. You and your Trainer(s) should ensure your logbook reflects that you can **obtain all views competently**.

Reporting: You must use the standard HD reporting form (paper or electronic) for all ultrasound examinations. All training documents, including the training record, logbook and competency assessments, can be downloaded from the [FUSIC® section](#) of the ICS website or the [FUSIC® Portal](#) once registration is complete.

Review: Your Trainer is responsible for supervising your scans, reviewing your logbook and signing off that you have undertaken studies and demonstrated competence in an appropriate range of pathology. We encourage you to meet periodically with your Trainer to review your studies. Doing so just at the end limits your learning opportunities and risks losing them altogether, after considerable expense of your time and effort. Over time you should notice increasing agreement in interpretation between you and your Trainer(s).

Competence: The minimum dataset and competencies which can be found in [**Guidelines for performing a comprehensive haemodynamic assessment with ultrasound**](#) outline what knowledge and skills are expected. These are updated periodically so do check for any updates. Learners acquire skills at differing rates. The minimum number of scans that are likely to be necessary in order to demonstrate competence, and to have experience of the required range of pathology, are listed below. Your Trainer is responsible for assessing competence and whether you have undertaken an adequate number before you apply for the assessment.

8. Assessment of competence

Once you have performed an appropriate number of HD examinations, completed your logbook, and had your competencies signed by your Trainer, you may apply to undertake the practical summative assessment. This consists of a centrally-run examination, involving:

- A logbook review
- A video exam with MCQ questions on image interpretation and integration
- A practical skill assessment involving scanning a human volunteer

Prior to attending the practical summative assessment, you must ensure that your logbook and summary training record (STR) have been completed, dated, and signed off by your FUSIC® approved Trainer. You should submit your Full logbook, Competency Sheet and Summary of Training Record (STR) for review by uploading these via the [FUSIC® Portal](#)

If your Logbook, Competency Sheet and STR are not signed off by a FUSIC® approved Trainer, they cannot be accepted.

Once all the above steps have been completed and you have passed the practical summative assessment, you will receive a **certificate of accreditation** from the **ICS in FUSIC® HD**.

More information on the practical assessment can be found here [ICS Events Page](#)

9. Maintenance of competence after accreditation

Once accredited, you will be responsible for maintaining your knowledge and competence in ultrasound by undertaking regular and relevant continuing medical education (CME/CPD). In order to maintain your practical skills, it is important that you regularly undertake ultrasound examinations that involve an appropriate range of pathology.

Undertaking regular audit and multidisciplinary review of your studies by advanced practitioners is an excellent way to maintain quality assurance.

12 months after FUSIC® HD accreditation, with evidence of ongoing clinical activity in HD ultrasound, you will be eligible to become a FUSIC® HD Trainer by application to the FUSIC® learning team using the following online form [Apply to become a FUSIC® HD Trainer](#)

For further guidance on 'echocardiography and ultrasound' governance, please read [GPICS 2](#), section 4.7 (p138) (V.3 to be released shortly)