

March 2024

**RE: EAGLE2 STUDY – Extension of existing ethical approval**

Dear Ethics Review Board,

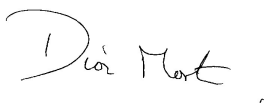
Thank you for previously granting ethical approval for the ESCP Safe-Anastomosis Programme in Colorectal Surgery (EAGLE) at your centre.

Following the publication of [EAGLE](#) we are now launching a follow-up snapshot audit, [EAGLE 2](#). This audit will evaluate the impact of the ESCP safe-anastomosis virtual training programme on patient outcomes. The first EAGLE study found that in the centres where >80% surgeons completed the online training; anastomotic leak rate in those centres fell by 50%. EAGLE 2 aims to validate this key finding and show that surgeons from across the world can work together to benefit their patients.

We aim to run the audit in May-June 2024, with centres collecting anonymised routinely recorded patient level data for an 8-week period. All patients (aged 18 year and older), undergoing right-sided bowel resection will be included. Results will be presented at the ESCP Congress in Thessaloniki, Greece in September and published in the British Journal of Surgery by the end of this year. As ethical approval was previously granted for EAGLE at your centre, I would like to request that you provide an extension of the existing ethical approval to include participation in EAGLE 2. A copy of the protocol is attached to this email for your information.

If you require any further information, please contact [eagle@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:eagle@contacts.bham.ac.uk). Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Dion Morton  
Head of Global Research at ESCP  
[Dion.morton@uhb.nhs.uk](mailto:Dion.morton@uhb.nhs.uk)