

# Notes from group discussions during Emergo Train System (ETS) meeting at the WADEM conference Tokyo May 3, 2025

## Question:

**Are you confident to hold exercises with ETS after you participated in the ETS Senior instructor course?**

**If yes, what are the strengths?**

**If no, what is missing?**

## Group 1:

### Strengths:

A key strength is that the instructor themselves can become an excellent teacher through the instructor course. There is potential to create additional courses, helping participants become more skilled in disaster medicine. It is recommended that instructors conduct more practical exercises. The all-inclusive cost model makes the program accessible to everyone.

The system can be applied to various cases, objectives, and target groups, including nurses, doctors, and specialists. It is adaptable to different types of scenarios and disasters. The course starts by clearly presenting the aims, goals, and objectives, ensuring participants understand what is important and what will be accomplished. Overall, it offers a very logical and effective system.

### Weaknesses:

For future courses, it's important to decide the date, location, and course format, possibly using online platforms. Since COVID-19, Japan has increasingly relied on online courses, but it has been difficult to apply ETS effectively in this online format.

## Group 2:

The Basic Instructor Course has not been conducted recently. There are also cost considerations associated with organizing a Senior Instructor Course. The Basic Instructor Course is a 1.5-day program that teaches how to use the ETS. In Japan, when Senior Instructors set up a course, they typically do so with the support of Basic Instructors. There is concern about how to continue running ETS courses in the future, especially given the challenges of organizing in-person (non-web-based) courses.

### Group 3:

The greatest strength of the tool is its flexibility. Participants leave the Senior Instructor course (SIC) feeling confident — as educators, we certainly hope so! However, there is a clear need for a reference guide or manual on how to set up exercises and courses. Such a resource would provide valuable guidance on planning and implementation. For example, in Australia, where courses are conducted over long distances, having a reference book is especially important.

We are very interested in the materials you have developed, as we would like to share them with other ETS users. There has also been considerable discussion about how to use ETS in an online format. Currently, there are limitations in some of the system settings. We would like to increase our online presence, with more meetings and webinars.

### Summary:

The ETS Competence center suggest having online meetings with instructors and could facilitate this.

## Question:

### **What characterizes a “good” ETS Senior instructor?**

Group 1:

- 1) Be a good person
- 2) Respectful
- 3) Collaborate and think together with the participants; never force a conclusion.
- 4) Show flexibility and be available.

Group 2:

To be a good Senior Instructor, it's essential to have strong leadership skills. It's also very important to give instructors the opportunity to teach in future courses. It's difficult to become a good instructor after attending just one course — you need to lead several exercises to build confidence and competence.

Group 3:

They are usually approachable, friendly, familiar with the plan they are testing, and respected when presenting patient outcomes. They also have a good understanding of the tool.

What's often missing in becoming a course director is an additional level of experience. You need to run several exercises before you can become a truly effective instructor.