

Key Indicator Cases

The chart below presents the AHNS-approved key indicator case categories and minimum numbers for the AHNS-Accredited Head & Neck and Head & Neck Endocrine Fellowships.

These case categories and numbers are not meant to be comprehensive but are designed to be representative of the broad surgical training experience that AHNS fellows should all be participating in during their fellowship year. These are minimum numbers for each category, and every fellow's experience and level of competency with regard to each case category will vary based on their own ability and their training experience prior to their fellowship year.

These numbers reflect the fellow's participation as surgeon, or as teaching surgeon who is guiding a resident through the procedure after having developed sufficient expertise as surgeon; they do not include the fellow's participation as assistant.

Procedure	Primary/Teaching
Infratemporal fossa/craniofacial/parapharyngeal space tumor resections	5
Maxillectomy	5
Neck dissection (includes selective, modified and radical)	15
Composite oral cavity resections with marginal or segmental mandibulectomy	5
Glossectomy	10
Parotidectomy	10
Complex head and neck reconstruction*	15
Sentinel lymph node biopsy	5
Thyroidectomy / Parathyroidectomy	10
Total and partial laryngectomy**	10
Transoral robotic surgery	5

*Complex reconstruction includes regional flaps **as surgeon** (pectoralis, supraclavicular, submental, deltopectoral, pedicled latissimus, etc), and microvascular free tissue transfer **as surgeon or assistant**

**May include open and transoral endoscopic approaches

Procedure	Primary/Teaching*
Thyroidectomy (all)	50
Parathyroidectomy	20
Neck Dissection (may include level VI only)	20

*A minimum of 20 cases (combined of all categories) should be re-operative or otherwise complex, remote access, or RFA cases.