

# Elective: Anatomical Pathology

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\*Pathology has requested that each student applying for an elective to include in the comments section of their application a written summary explaining why they applying to Pathology.

## OVERVIEW

Anatomical Pathology is that branch of medicine concerned with the study of the morphologic aspects of disease and includes subspecialties that may be oriented towards specific organ systems (for example, gynecological pathology, dermatopathology, gastrointestinal pathology, cardiovascular pathology, respiratory pathology, musculoskeletal pathology, renal pathology, genitourinary pathology, endocrine pathology, ophthalmic pathology, ENT pathology, neuropathology), certain laboratory methods (for example, cytopathology, immunopathology, electron microscopy, molecular biology), or certain types of clinical cases (for example, pediatric pathology, forensic pathology).

## INTRODUCTION

### Location(s):

Health Sciences Centre and/or St. Boniface Hospital.

### Preceptors:

Preceptors will be assigned depending on specific area of interest and availability.

### Attending Surgeons:

### Contact Person:

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## LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

### General Objectives

On completion of the educational program, medical students and off-service residents will be able to slate the manner in which anatomical specimen are used in the diagnosis of disease states.

### Specific Objectives

At the completion of the rotation the medical student, or the off-service resident will have acquired the following competencies.

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## **Medical Expert**

As Medical Experts, physicians integrate all of the CanMEDS Roles, applying medical knowledge, clinical skills and professional attitudes in their provision of patient-centered care.

The student can expect to be actively involved in the service. This will encompass:

### ***General Goals:***

1. Understand the role of diagnostic pathology including autopsy in the role of patient center care.
2. Understand the use of anatomical pathology services with respect to patient care and education.

### ***Specific Goals:***

1. Understands basic safety regulation and procedures employed in the laboratory.
2. Understand specimen collection, labeling and handling protocols.
3. Understand basic principles of the laboratory information system.
4. Observe gross examination of pathology specimens.
5. Observe intra-operative consultations with a pathologist/resident.
6. Review teaching slides and/or teaching slide collection with a pathologist or resident.
7. Observe surgical pathology sign-out.
8. Review teaching slides or selected cytology cases with a pathologist, resident and technologist.
9. Observe cytology sign-out.
10. Observe autopsy gross and microscopic procedures.
11. Read the clinical summary and the autopsy report.
12. Know types of deaths that are responsible to the medical examiner's office.

## **Communicator**

Physicians effectively facilitate the doctor-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during, and after the medical encounter.

As Communicators, students will facilitate the doctor-patient relationship:

### ***General Goals***

1. Understands the relationship with consulting physicians and surgeons from the perspective of anatomical pathology.
2. Understand the importance of clinical information in supporting a timely, accurate pathological diagnosis.

### ***Specific Goals***

1. Assist in the continuing education of physicians and other members of the hospital staff.

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2. Understand the anatomical pathology consultant's interface with clinical colleagues on the interpretation and relevance of pathological findings, with particular regard to their significance in the management of the patient.
3. Understand the information pathology should provide in a given clinical situation.

### **Collaborator**

Physicians effectively work within a healthcare team to achieve optimal patient care.

As Collaborators, students will work effectively within the surgical team to achieve optimal patient care:

#### ***General Goal***

Contribute effectively to interdisciplinary team activities.

#### ***Specific Goal***

For a four week rotation or greater, the following case study is expected.

Choose one case and prepare a presentation on the topic that will include clinical history and examination findings, gross findings with photographic documentation, and discussion of the pathophysiology of the disease state.

### **Leader**

Physicians engage with others to contribute to a vision of a high-quality health care system and take responsibility for the delivery of excellent patient care through their activities as clinicians, administrators, scholars, or teachers.

As Leaders, students will participate in the activities of the surgical service, making decisions, allocating resources, and contributing to the effectiveness of the health care team:

#### ***General Goals***

1. Utilize resources effectively to balance patient care, learning needs, and outside activities.
2. Work effectively and efficiently in a health care organization.
3. Utilize information technology to optimize patient care, life-long learning and other activities.

#### ***Specific Goals***

1. Become familiar with principles of laboratory management and administration.
2. Become familiar with the methods of quality control in the laboratory

### **Health Advocate**

Physicians responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations.

As Health Advocates, students will responsibly use their expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations:

#### ***General Goals***

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1. Identify the important determinants of health affecting patients.
2. Contribute effectively to improved health of patients and communities.
3. Recognize and respond to those issues where advocacy is appropriate.

## ***Specific Goals***

1. As members of an interdisciplinary team of professionals responsible for individual and population health care, an understanding of laboratory practices and test selection must be gained.

## **Scholar**

Physicians demonstrate a lifelong commitment to reflective learning, as well as the creation, dissemination, application and translation of medical knowledge.

As Scholars, students will demonstrate a lifelong commitment to learning:

## ***General Goals***

1. Develop, implement and monitor a personal continuing education strategy.
2. Critically appraise sources of pathology related medical information

## ***Specific Goals***

1. Participate in the required teaching sessions for pathology residents.
2. Attend joint clinicopathological rounds held in the Pathology Department.

## **Professional**

As Professionals, physicians are committed to the health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, profession-led regulation, and high personal standards of behaviour.

As Professionals, students are committed to health and well-being of individuals through ethical practice, profession-led regulation and high personal standards of behavior:

## ***General Goals***

1. Deliver highest quality care with integrity, honesty, and compassion.
2. Exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviors.
3. Practice medicine ethically consistent with obligations of a physician.

## ***Specific Goals***

1. Act as an appropriate role model.
2. Demonstrate a professional attitude to colleagues as well as other laboratory staff.
3. Have an appreciation of the crucial role of the anatomical pathologist in providing quality patient care.

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## **INFORMATION**

### **Required Reading**

Suggested reading: Pathologic Basis of Diseases. Robbins and Cotran.

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Additional readings in a pathology subspecialty may be added at the discretion of the preceptor.  
A lecture may be assigned on a specific topic at the discretion of the preceptor.

## **Evaluations**

Meet with the senior resident/preceptor on the first day of the rotation.  
Exit interview to be held at a date and time decided by senior resident/preceptor.

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## **WARD ACTIVITIES**

### **Service Rounds**

Elective students/residents are expected to attend Wednesday Pathology Grand Rounds 1:00-2:00pm  
(at MS 473 with links to other sites)

### **Academic Schedule**

Thursday morning academic half day sessions with the pathology residents.