

Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center
University of Washington
Pediatric Pathology Fellowship
Goals and Objectives with
General Competencies

The overall goal of the Pediatric Pathology fellowship is to provide an organized educational experience that will serve as the basis on which to build a life-long career of independent learning and practice. The fellow, having already completed a pathology residency, will know the essentials of pathology. He should be capable of practical problem solving while assimilating a large amount of information. By exposure to the theoretical and practical applications of pediatric surgical, autopsy and clinical pathology, the fellow will acquire a solid foundation in this comprehensive subspecialty discipline. Specifically, the fellowship will provide training that enables the trainee to 1) perform an autopsy on a fetus, infant or child, 2) evaluate and make diagnostic assessment of surgical specimens and 3) utilize and interpret appropriate clinical tests in a holistic manner.

Patient Care

The fellow will demonstrate the ability to:

- Gather essential and accurate clinical information
- Properly dissect and describe surgical and autopsy specimens with demonstration of normal and abnormal anatomy
- Appropriately select material for microscopic examination
- Accurately interpret diagnostic information and test results within the clinical context
- Appropriately develop differential diagnosis and initiate, utilize and interpret ancillary testing including electron microscopy, immunohistochemistry, flow cytometry, cytogenetics, microbiology and molecular diagnostics
- Advise clinicians on the choice of clinically appropriate, cost effective tests
- Advise clinicians on appropriate follow-up for unexpected or unusual results

Medical Knowledge

The fellow will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of common clinical and diagnostic procedures and their medical application and correlation
- Knowledge of specialized diagnostic procedures and their application to treatment of pediatric malignancies in the context of national cooperative treatment trials (i.e. Children's Oncology Group, National Wilms Tumor Study, etc)

- Ability to collect and evaluate medical evidence
- Ability to utilize information technology (Medline, CIS, “Bookworm”) to investigate clinical questions and support work-up and diagnosis
- Development of personal strategy to regularly maintain and update medical knowledge

Practice-based Learning and Improvement

The fellow will demonstrate:

- Ongoing identification and remediation of gaps in personal medical knowledge
- Understanding of and ability to apply the principles of quality control and quality assurance
- Ability to identify process improvements that may minimize opportunities for medical errors

Interpersonal and Communication skills

The fellow will demonstrate the ability to:

- Communicate clearly and effectively with clinicians at various levels of training, pathology residents, medical technologist and other medical personnel
- Choose the appropriate mode of communication (direct, telephone, e-mail, electronic)
- Prepare a comprehensible, relevant and concise verbal report that conveys the appropriate level of diagnostic certainty
- Prepare a comprehensible, relevant and concise written report with the appropriate level of diagnostic certainty
- Prepare and deliver effective presentations

Professionalism

The fellow will demonstrate:

- Knowledge and understanding of ethical and privacy issues affecting patient care
- Sensitivity and responsiveness to practice associates’ and patients’ culture, age, gender and disabilities
- Respectful interactions with patients and health care professionals and staff
- Prompt and courteous response to all pager and telephone calls
- Dependable commitment to optimal medical practices
- Regular and punctual participation in conferences, rounds and meetings

Systems-based Practice

The fellow will demonstrate:

- Practice of cost-effective laboratory utilization that does not compromise quality care
- Understanding of the pathologist's role in the health care system and the importance of reliable and timely results
- Understanding of QA/QC and their role in CLIA, CAP, JCAHO certification
- Execution of HIPAA requirements
- Understanding of regulatory and compliance issues as they pertain to the laboratory