Goals and Objectives for the Gastrointestinal Pathology Rotation

A. The trainee will be expected to demonstrate compassionate and appropriate regard for GI pathology specimens. This will be evaluated by interaction and feedback with faculty and staff.

B. The trainee will be expected to demonstrate medical knowledge, especially with regard to established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and patho-biological science and to demonstrate the application of this knowledge to analysis of GI path specimens and analysis of the resultant data. This will be assessed by case discussion and analysis with faculty, as well as the in service examinations.

C. Trainees will be expected to demonstrate practice-based learning and improvement involving investigation and evaluation of their own GI path cases, assimilation of scientific evidence, and demonstrate improvement in the ability to work up cases. This will be evaluated by case discussion and sign-out with faculty.

D. Interpersonal and communication skills, including report writing, will be assessed in order to assure effective information exchange with other residents, faculty, staff, clinicians, and students. This will be evaluated by having faculty observe interactions at conferences and read and evaluate reports.

E. Trainees will be expected to manifest a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient and collegial population in order to assure professionalism. This will be assessed by regular evaluation and discussion with faculty and staff.

F. Trainees will be expected to be aware of the larger context and system of health care, have the ability to effectively call on wider resources, and provide care and practice that is optimized in the context of a systems-based practice of medicine. This will be evaluated by learning to use the Internet for appropriate resources, attend interdepartmental conferences, and the in-service examination.

G. Below is a non-exhaustive listing of some the specific objectives representing only but a few of the things that residents will be expected to master and accomplish.
Specific Goals and Objectives

1. Residents should know and show ability to handle, gross and submit appropriate sections of the gastro-intestinal tract lesions.

2. Senior residents are expected to teach and instruct junior members in the gross handling GI specimens.

3. Classify and describe the congenital anomalies of the esophagus, including atresia, heterotopia, diverticuli, congenital cysts, rings and webs.

4. Discuss the pathologic features and etiology of achalasia and other related motor disorders of the esophagus.

5. Describe the gross appearance and histologic diagnostic features of reflux esophagitis.

6. Classify and describe the microscopic features of metaplastic changes in the esophagus and discuss the underlying pathogenesis.

7. Define the term Barrett’s esophagus (BE), the histologic features of BE, and discuss the risk for development of dysplasia and adenocarcinoma.

8. Describe the risk factors, gross morphology and microscopic features of adenocarcinoma of the esophagus.

9. Describe the risk factors, gross morphology, sites of involvement and microscopic features of squamous cell carcinoma of the esophagus.

10. Describe the histologic features of dysplasia in BE, and the distinguishing features between dysplasia and regenerative changes.

11. List and show ability to identify common viral and other infectious microorganisms that are encountered in the esophagus.

12. Demonstrate ability to recognize and distinguish the epithelium of specific anatomic sites of the normal stomach.

13. List and describe heterotopic tissues of the stomach.


15. Describe the role of H. pylori infection in gastritis and the development of gastric carcinoma and lymphomas.
16. Describe and identify the histologic features of the following chronic gastritides: chronic superficial H. pylori, atrophic, autoimmune, granulomatous gastritis, eosinophilic, lymphocytic, and reactive.

17. Classify and describe the gross and histologic features of gastric adenocarcinoma.

18. Describe the features of gastric stromal tumors (GIST) and lymphomas, including mucosa associated (MALT) lymphoma.

19. Be able to discuss the clinical, histologic features and serology of celiac disease.

20. Highlight the distinguishing features between celiac disease and tropical sprue.

21. Give a classification and describe the histologic features of tumors of the pancreas and ampullary region.

22. Be able to recognize the different forms of colitides. Describe the clinical, radiologic, and histologic features of ulcerative colitis and crohn’s disease.

23. Describe the clinical and histologic features of microscopic colitis (lymphocytic and collagenous) and other infectious and non-infectious colitides.

24. Give a classification of polyposis syndromes and other polyps of the gastrointestinal tract. Describe the histologic feature of these polyps and know the associated risk (if any) for malignant transformation.

25. Describe gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST) and other related mesenchymal lesions of the gut.

26. Discuss the gross and histologic features of colonic adenocarcinoma.

27. Classify and discuss the carcinoid tumors of the gastrointestinal tract.

28. Describe the microscopic features of tumors of the ano-rectal region.

29. Describe the histologic features of viral chronic hepatitis, autoimmune hepatitis, drug related hepatitis, alcoholic hepatitis, and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis.

30. Discuss the histologic features, including serological findings of primary biliary cirrhosis and primary sclerosing cholangitis.

31. Discuss the pathologic finding of some of the following metabolic diseases of the liver: Alpha-1-antitrypsis deficiency and Wilson’s disease.

32. List the cause and histology of liver cirrhosis.
33. Discuss the etiology and histology of hepatocellular carcinoma, including subtypes such as fibro-lamellar variant.

34. Describe the microscopic features of hepatoblastoma and mesenchymal tumors of the liver.

35. Describe and classify the tumors of the gallbladder and the rest of the biliary system.