EXTERNAL SURGICAL PATHOLOGY ROTATION

Introduction:

These rotations are designed for PGY-4 or 5 residents who have completed basic and advanced in-house rotations in surgical pathology, cytopathology, and pediatric pathology. Entrance is by permission of the Program Director and the Director of Pathology of the participating private hospital. Availability is limited and there is no assurance that all requests can be granted.

Length of rotation is 1-2 months.

List of currently available rotations:

1. St Vincent Infirmary Medical Center, Contact Pathologist: Don Scott, M.D.
2. Baptist Medical Center, Contact Pathologist: Dianne Johnson, M.D.
3. St Bernard's Regional Medical Center, Contact Pathologist: Joe T. Wilson, Jr., M.D.
4. Jefferson Regional Medical Center, Contact Pathologist: James Clark, M.D.

Goals and Objectives:

1. Enhancement of basic surgical pathology sign out skills.
2. Exposure to the types of surgical specimens seen in private hospital environments.
3. Instruction in the organization, administration and quality assurance procedures of a busy private practice environment.
4. Familiarization with practitioners of pathology in key areas of Arkansas

Instructions for Residents/Fellows contemplating rotations.

1. You need an Arkansas Medical License.
2. You should discuss your intention with the program director who will then contact a participating hospital.
3. Once initial arrangements are made an interview may be necessary.
4. Remember, their participation is strictly voluntary.
5. They will be asked to evaluate you (as per RRC requirements) at the end of your rotation.
6. You will also be asked to evaluate the rotation at its completion.
ARKANSAS STATE CRIME LABORATORY

ELECTIVE FORENSIC PATHOLOGY ROTATION (One to Three months)

GOALS

1. Introduce resident to sophisticated and/or difficult medicolegal autopsies.
2. Rotate through specific sections of The Crime Laboratory learning and participating in various testing procedures.
3. Communicate with and schedule conferences for families, law enforcement personnel, and prosecutors.
4. Organize and conduct a research project related to forensic pathology (during longer rotations).

OBJECTIVES

1. Perform or assist in 20-30 medicolegal autopsies under supervision.
2. Participate in scene investigations with coroner’s and/or law enforcement personnel when appropriate.
3. Understand mechanisms of disease and Injury by use of supportive laboratory findings, e.g., ballistics and toxicology.
4. Learn to amend and finalize difficult and unusual ("pending") death certificates.
5. Examine legal problems associated with cases and prepare to attend courtroom activities (trials) in civil and criminal matters.
6. Set up and conduct an independent research project regarding a forensic problem or issue.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Perform difficult and unusual medicolegal autopsies, e.g., cases involving decomposition, skeletal remains, etc., and learn about postmortem changes during various death intervals.
2. Rotate through individual Crime Laboratory Divisions for a period of time to view and learn techniques in various sections.
3. Examine specific subjects through textbooks and journals.
4. Lead a discussion or conference regarding a case or topic.
5. Organize time and effort so as to finish or nearly complete a research project.
Elective Rotation in Neuropathology

Name: Advanced Neuropathology
Site: Gc113 McClellan Veterans' Hospital
Length: Two to six months
Faculty in Charge: Robert E. Mrak MD, PhD
Muhammad M. Husain, MBBS

Goals and Objectives:
This relatively unstructured rotation is designed to allow the resident to develop greater competence in diagnostic and research neuropathology.

Duties and Responsibilities:
These may be tailored to fit the individual goals of the resident. Available opportunities include:

1. **Surgical diagnostics.** In addition to review of current neurosurgical material (including nerve and muscle biopsies), there are extensive collections of older material available.

2. **Autopsy neuropathology.** In addition to material available through University Hospital, Children's Hospital and Veterans' Hospital, there is the opportunity to review the abundant material available through the Medical Examiner's office.

3. **Advanced techniques.** These include histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, electron microscopy and immunoelectron microscopy. A full-time research technician, funded in part through a multi-center NIH Alzheimer's grant, will be available and trained in these techniques.

4. **Research (dry).** Abundant interesting material is available in our archives. Preparation of case reports or small series of cases for publication may be accomplished within a two-month rotation and offer considerable opportunity for self-education.

5. **Research (wet).** Longer rotations (5-6 months) allow participation in ongoing research projects. Current active projects include synaptic pathology in schizophrenia; ultrastructural immunocytochemistry of Alzheimer's disease, and ultrastructural immunocytochemistry of brain tumors.

Means by which duties accomplish goals:
See duties and responsibilities
ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY RESEARCH ELECTIVE

Director: A J. Hough, Jr., M.D., and Bruce R. Smoller, MD. or designee (see list of faculty researchers in resident research opportunities)

Site: Variable according to project selected

Length: 3 to 6 months; longer periods possible during (5th year experience required by ABP)

Goals and Objectives

1. Develop understanding of the principles of experimentation including formulation, planning, experimental design, data collection, statistical analysis, and illustration of findings.
2. Resident will submit a research plan to the Chairman prior to assignment of resources to the project.
3. Become familiar with at least one research level technique applicable to anatomic experimental pathology.
4. Carry the experimental project through to completion as signified by presentation of the data and/or publication in an appropriate peer-reviewed journal.

Means of Evaluation

1. Research will be presented at Residents Conference Tuesday, 12N), reviewed by the faculty sponsor, and presented to the Chairman.
2. Resident, sponsor, and Chairman will review critique received from external peer-review.
3. Standard departmental evaluation form will be completed by both the resident and the faculty sponsor for review after completion of the project.

Resources Available

1. Space, technical, and secretarial support will be available after approval of the project by the Chairman.
2. Departmental monies will be appropriated after approval. Amounts up to $2,000 would be usual. Greater resources will be available to residents who have previously completed meritorious research projects.
3. The department will fund a trip to a national meeting for the purpose of presenting the data.
STUDY AND REVIEW AIDS

1. Glass slide collection. This is the most important. Additions and improvements are greatly appreciated by the staff and by the residents who follow.

2. ASC kodachrome sets. These are old and not always visually optimal. They are, however, representative of the sacred dogma of traditional cytology. In the case of lesions not commonly sampled by cytologic means (uterine sarcomas, for example), these sets may be the best study material available.

3. Cytotest I and II These are slide sets with multiple choice questions, answers and discussions. They were created by the ASCP as board review material. The photographs are very good.