

DERMATOPATHOLOGY

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

PGY-5

- Matriculation in the Dermatopathology Residency Program requires that the trainee be Board eligible in either dermatology or pathology. Therefore, every resident in dermatopathology has already had significant training in dermatopathology during their residency training in dermatology or pathology. All come in at the level of PGY-5.
- Dermatopathology residents who have had training in pathology must have equivalent of six months of training in clinical dermatology during the residency training program in dermatopathology, which is one year in duration. During the six months that each of these individuals spends on dermatology, they will adhere to the scope of practice of PGY-2 resident physicians in dermatology (Attachment A).
- Each dermatopathology trainee who has had previous training in dermatology must spend the equivalent of six months on anatomic pathology during the training program in dermatopathology, which is one year in duration. During the period of time that the trainee is on anatomic pathology, he or she will adhere to the scope of practice for a PGY-1 resident physician in pathology (Attachment B).
- With regard to dermatopathology, the dermatopathology trainee is required to oversee the cutting in of all specimens that are submitted for analysis. The trainees are required to be present during the daily sign-out sessions, at which time the microscopic sections of the pathology specimens are analyzed in the presence of the supervising attending physician. The dermatopathology trainee is responsible for dictating the microscopic report for those cases which are assigned to him/her by the attending physician. The attending physician will then review each of the microscopic descriptions and make any necessary corrections before the reports are verified. The dermatopathology resident is also responsible for ordering special studies and recut sections and for being sure that these special studies and recut sections are acquired in a timely manner and are reviewed with the attending physician on each case. The dermatopathology trainee is also responsible for communicating with the attending physicians who have requested the pathology consultation on those cases that are the responsibility of the resident and in which the ordering physician has requested a rush or urgent examination of the pathological material.

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Note: The departments of Dermatology and Pathology adhere to the Medicare teaching physicians regulations for residency provision for all patients. Therefore, the term “under supervision” refers to the Medicare regulations.