

HEMATOPATHOLOGY

Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

PGY-6

The goal of the Hematopathology Fellowship program at MUSC is to train competent Hematologists. This is accomplished by a broad-based educational experience in service, teaching and research. The structure of the program is to allow the fellow guidance in all aspects of diagnostic hematopathology training.

The Hematopathology program written statement outlining the educational goals and major assignments with respect to knowledge, skills, and other attributes are outlined in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine's Resident Handbook. The Hematopathology section addresses overall responsibilities, daily responsibilities, readings and pertinent reference material and specific learning objectives. The document is given to fellows and members of the teaching staff at the beginning of the academic year. The Hematopathology fellowship has faculty and staff committed to providing the highest quality education in all facets of hematopathology and have the time, resources and experience to do so. At the end of the training period fellows are competent and confident in their ability and graduates enjoy successful careers after completing the program. The purpose of this briefing is to explain the objectives and goals of the rotation that will be used as the basis of your evaluation.

Objective # 1

- To develop professional skills in obtaining, examining and interpreting hematologic specimens in order to make an accurate diagnosis of hematologic disorders.
- To develop consultative expertise in clinical problems in the field of hematology and hemostasis.
- To have experience with the techniques used in cytochemical and immunohistochemical procedures performed in the diagnosis of hematologic and lymphoproliferative disorders and to develop skills in interpreting these tests.
- To demonstrate the techniques, applications and interpretation of flow cytometry assays, fluorescent *in-situ* hybridization (FISH), molecular analysis, including PCR and RT-PCR and cytogenetic studies.

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- To develop managerial and administrative skills for directing a hematology laboratory.
- To develop abilities in investigation and research in the field of hematology and hemostasis resulting in publications in peer review journals.

Objective # 2

- To be able to recognize and distinguish normal morphology and non-pathologic variants of normal hematopoiesis in bone marrow, lymph node and spleen specimens from the pathologic counterparts.
- To develop an ability to write concise, informative and comprehensive reports on specimens received for examination; to develop verbal skills in communicating these findings to the referring clinicians.
- To develop an understanding of the pathologic processes related to anemia, thrombocytopenia's and leukocyte disorders. To be able to utilize this information in proposing tests to confirm diagnoses.
- To be able to correlate morphologic, molecular, cytogenetic and flow cytometric data in the diagnosis of leukemic subtypes and lymphomas and to assign diagnoses according to WHO classification scheme.
- To understand the basis for coagulopathies, both congenital and acquired, and to be able to assist the clinicians in the selection of confirmatory tests and the use of therapeutic interventions.
- To be able to assess marrow specimens for cellular content, both quantitatively and qualitatively, for erythroid, myeloid, lymphoid and megakaryocytic content in addition to other cells present, including plasma cells, megakaryocytes, fibroblasts and to relate these to disease states.
- To be able to differentiate a factor deficiency from the present of an inhibitor.

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*For information regarding this scope of practice, please contact:
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- To be able to diagnose both myeloproliferative and myelodysplastic disorders on the basis of morphology, flow cytometric and cytogenetic data.
- Perform a minimum of five bone marrow aspirates with Adult Hematology/Oncology service.

Objective # 3

Hematopathology Fellow will be evaluated on:

- Quality of dictated reports
- Conference participation
- General fund of knowledge
- Literature awareness
- Clinicopathologic correlation skills
- Problem solving skills
- Appropriateness of consultations
- Communicative skills with clinical staff
- Improvement during course of rotation