

Breast-Gynecologic Pathology Fellowship Goals and Objectives with General Competencies

ACGME Competencies

The Breast and Gynecologic Pathology Fellowship (Breast/Gyn) will integrate the following ACGME Competencies into the curriculum:

Professionalism

Fellows will demonstrate a commitment to professionalism and an adherence to ethical principles.

Patient Care and Procedural Skills

Fellows will be able to provide patient care that is patient- and family-centered, compassionate, equitable, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Fellows will demonstrate competence in:

- advocating for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems;
- communicating pathology results, including directly to patients;
- educating others in the knowledge, skills, and abilities related to patient care in Breast/Gyn
- preparing and presenting pathology material at clinicopathologic correlation conferences and/or tumor boards; and,
- providing appropriate and effective consultations to physicians and other health professionals, both intra- and inter- departmentally.

Consultations will include providing medical advice on the diagnosis and management of patients whose specimens are received and interpreted on the anatomic pathology or clinical pathology service, as applicable to Breast/Gyn.

Fellows will be able to perform all medical, diagnostic, and procedures considered essential for the area of practice.

Fellows will participate in performing the patient and laboratory procedures for which they will be expected to supervise ancillary staff members.

Fellows will demonstrate competence in:

- the gross examination of specimens in Breast/Gyn;
- the histologic examination and diagnosis of common and uncommon diseases in Breast/Gyn;
- intra-operative surgical pathology diagnostic consultations in Breast/Gyn, if applicable; and,
- interpretation of the results of laboratory assays routinely used in anatomic pathology, including histochemical, immunohistochemical, and molecular and genomic assays, as applied to Breast/Gyn pathology.

Medical Knowledge

Fellows will demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social- behavioral sciences, including scientific inquiry, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care.

Fellows will demonstrate expertise in their knowledge of:

- the pathology of common and uncommon diseases in Breast/Gyn;
- histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, and molecular and genomic techniques as they apply to Breast/Gyn; and,
- the operation and management of surgical pathology and relevant laboratories, including assay development, laboratory regulations, quality control procedures and quality improvement activities, as they apply to Breast/Gyn.

Practice-based Learning and Improvement

Fellows will demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and lifelong learning.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Fellows will demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals.

Systems-based Practice

Fellows will demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, including the structural and social determinants of health, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources to provide optimal health care.

Curriculum Organization and Fellow Experiences

The curriculum will be structured to optimize fellow educational experiences, the length of the experiences, and the supervisory continuity. These educational experiences include an appropriate blend of supervised patient care responsibilities, clinical teaching, and didactic educational events.

Fellow experiences will be designed to allow appropriate faculty member supervision such that fellows progress to the performance of assigned clinical responsibilities under oversight, in order to demonstrate their ability to enter the autonomous practice in Breast/Gyn prior to completion of the program.

Fellow experiences will include:

- supervision of residents, and with graduated responsibility, including independent diagnoses and decision-making;
- laboratory management, quality assurance activities, and committee service; and,
- use of laboratory information systems and database management.

The didactic curriculum will include teaching conferences and journal clubs in Breast/Gyn, as well as joint conferences with clinical services involved in the diagnosis and management of patients in Breast/Gyn.

- Didactic topics will include new technologies in Breast/Gyn.
- Fellows will actively participate in conferences, at least once per month on average, in Breast/Gyn.
- Fellows will present a minimum of two conferences per year; and will be evaluated in their presentation skills.
- Fellows' clinical experience will be augmented through didactic sessions, review of the relevant medical literature, and use of study materials for unusual cases.
- Fellows will participate in laboratory quality assurance activities and inspections.

Fellow Scholarly Activity

Each fellow will participate in scholarly activity, including at least one of the following:

- evidence-based presentations at journal clubs or meetings (local, regional, or national);
- preparation and submission of articles for peer-reviewed publications; or,
- clinical or basic science research projects.