

# UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CYTOPATHOLOGY FELLOWSHIP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## ACGME Competencies

The program 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:

- communicating cytopathology results, including directly to healthcare professionals;
- communicating effectively with patients while performing FNA biopsies;
- immediate assessment of FNA and touch preparation specimens from a variety of organ sites as demonstrated by the degree of agreement between immediate evaluation and final diagnosis;
- performing specimen collection, specimen screening, and cytopreparation, including liquid-based preparation;
- the integration of additional diagnostic adjuncts, including flow cytometric analysis, immunocytochemistry, and molecular testing; and,
- providing appropriate and effective consultations to physicians and other health professionals, both intra- and inter- departmentally.

Consultations should include providing medical advice on diagnosis and management of organ sites and diseases sampled by cytologic methods, and effectively interacting with patients and families during performance of FNA procedures.

Fellows will demonstrate diagnostic competence:

- Fellows will evaluate at least 2000 cytology specimens, to include at least 500 gynecologic specimens, 500 non-gynecologic specimens, and 500 FNAs.
  - These must represent a variety of organs and a spectrum of pathologic entities.
- Fellows will be able to perform all medical and diagnostic procedures considered essential for the area of practice.
- Fellows will demonstrate competence in performing FNA procedures.
- Fellows will document all FNA procedures they perform in the ACGME Case Log System.

## 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.

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Fellows will demonstrate competence in their knowledge of:

- pathogenesis, diagnostic techniques, and prognostic factors and targeted therapies for disease processes commonly sampled by cytologic methods;
- standardized reporting terminology for various gynecologic, non-gynecologic, and FNA cytologic samples, cervical cancer screening and management; and,
- laboratory accreditation requirements and federal regulations related to cytopathology laboratories and personnel.

### 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 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 of cytopathology prior to completion of the program.

Fellow experiences will include:

- supervision of trainees and/or laboratory personnel, and with graduated responsibility, including independent diagnoses and decision-making; and,
- educational activities specific to cytopathology, review of the medical literature in the subspecialty area, and use of study sets of unusual cases.

The didactic curriculum will include teaching conferences in cytopathology, journal clubs, and joint conferences within the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, as well as with clinical services involved in patient diagnosis and management utilizing cytopathology.

- Fellows will participate in conferences, on average, at least once per month
- Will give a minimum of two presentations per year, including formal presentations (tumor boards, journal clubs, and educational conferences).
- Fellows should 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 research