

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON DERMATOPATHOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Curriculum Organization and Fellow Experiences

The curriculum is structured to optimize fellows' educational experiences, with an appropriate blend of supervised patient care responsibilities, clinical teaching, and didactic education.

Rotations are generally one month in length, and intended to provide a quality educational experience with sufficient continuity of patient care, supervision, longitudinal relationships with faculty members, and opportunity for high-quality assessment and feedback.

Clinical experiences are structured to facilitate learning in a manner that allows the fellows to function as part of an effective interprofessional team that works together longitudinally with shared goals of patient safety and quality improvement.

All fellows:

- Review and diagnose dermatopathology specimens throughout all 12 months of fellowship.
- Devote four months of their education exclusively to the study of dermatopathology.
- Examine at least 5000 dermatopathology specimens, including in-house and referral specimens.
- Are exposed to laboratory management.
- Are exposed to molecular techniques.
- Attend relevant dermatology, surgical, pathology, and dermatopathology clinical conferences
- Have clearly defined assignments and increasing responsibility appropriate to their demonstrated competence in dermatopathology.
- Participate in teaching dermatopathology to dermatology residents and/or pathology residents during daily signout as well as in formal didactic sessions.

Pathology-Trained fellows

- Fellows who are pathologists devote 50 percent of the remaining eight months of the program to education in clinical dermatology provided by the dermatology teaching faculty.

Dermatology-Trained fellows

- Fellows who are dermatologists devote 50 percent of the remaining eight months of the program to education in anatomic pathology provided by the pathology teaching faculty.

The didactic curriculum for dermatopathology fellows also includes regularly scheduled lectures, dermatopathology journal club, and one on one subspecialty teaching led by dermatopathology faculty.

Fellows have access to study sets of both physical and digital slides, as well as cases that can be used for teaching and presentation purposes.

Fellow Scholarly Activity

Each fellow will participate in scholarly activity by:

- publishing or preparing one or more manuscripts suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed publication and/or
- giving at least one presentation at a regional or national professional society meeting on topics relevant to dermatopathology

ACGME Competencies

The Dermatopathology Fellowship integrates 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:

- reviewing and diagnosing dermatopathological specimens; and,
- diagnosing skin disorders by direct inspection and microscopy using special stains, immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, and molecular studies.
- performing all medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the area of practice.

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 proficiency in dermatopathology, including the related basic sciences and laboratory and clinical sciences, through application to their practice, as well as performance on objective exams.

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.