

## **SURGICAL PATHOLOGY**

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **General Goals and Objectives**

##### Patient Care

- To develop proficiency in diagnostic general surgical pathology.
- To develop proficiency in the review and incorporation of clinical information into general surgical pathology practice.
- To develop proficiency in interpretation and communication of frozen section diagnoses.
- To learn appropriate application of ancillary diagnostic techniques such as immunohistochemistry, cytogenetics, molecular diagnostics, and electron microscopy, for surgical pathology specimens.

##### Medical Knowledge

- To refine conceptual understanding of diseases and correlations with morphology.
- To refine an investigatory and analytic cognitive approach to surgical pathology diagnoses.
- To understand the role of intraoperative consultations in clinical decision-making.
- To understand the scientific basis and practical applications of immunohistochemistry.
- To correlate surgical pathology findings with clinical presentation, radiology, and pathologic-prognostic indicators.

##### Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- To develop proficiency in presentation of surgical pathology findings to pathologists, residents, and clinicians.
- To guide pathology residents on surgical pathology rotations with an emphasis on frozen section analysis, gross specimen examination, and microscopic interpretation.
- To effectively lead in the frozen section/gross room team including the daily huddles.
- To learn to communicate effectively with surgeons about pathologic diagnoses and intraoperative consultations.
- To prepare accurate, effective, concise written reports.

##### Professionalism

- To demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity in encounters with patients, clinicians, other fellows, residents, and staff in the practice of pathology.
- To complete written reports in a timely fashion.
- To work effectively as a team with technical and administrative staff, and to treat technical and administrative staff with respect.
- To participate effectively in surgical pathology teaching conferences.

- To participate effectively in multidisciplinary conferences that include surgical pathology presentations.

#### Systems-Based Practice

- To develop an understanding of the role of quality assurance in diagnostic surgical pathology by participating in quality assurance data collection, documentation, and reviews.
- To select appropriate, effective special studies for surgical pathology cases.
- To understand safety in surgical pathology and the role of OSHA in setting workplace safety standards.
- To understand the use of laboratory informatics systems in anatomic pathology, for ordering, reporting, quality assurance, and billing purposes.
- To apply current tumor staging and grading systems and understand the role of these in data collection for tumor registries and national cancer databases.

#### Practice-Based Learning

- To use case-based learning as a tool for additional insights into disease pathogenesis.
- To locate, appraise, and assimilate pertinent evidence from scientific studies.
- To demonstrate effective problem-solving skills in surgical pathology, using a wide variety of information resources.