

Elective Description

Campus: Northeast (NE)

Elective/Experience Title: Hospital Pathology/Lab Medicine

Location of Elective: Altru Health System - Grand Forks, ND

Department: Pathology

Course Number: PATH 9301

Preceptor(s): Ann M. Brown, MD; Mohammad Eskandari, MD; Christopher W. Lockhart MD; Mark Rodacker, MD & Shifteh Vahidi, MD

Period(s) Offered: All periods

Number of students per period: 1

Purpose: To provide education and experience in surgical pathology and hospital laboratory medicine.

Objectives: Following successful completion of this elective, the student will be able to:

1. Utilize surgical histology concepts in the practice of clinical care.
2. Cut gross pathology specimens and dictate gross pathology specimen descriptions into the medical record.
3. Diagnose basic and common surgical pathology tissue specimens received in a community hospital pathology laboratory
4. Complete a basic death investigation report and assist a pathologist with autopsy procedures.
5. Present surgical cases at hospital tumor conferences when in clinical practice.
6. Describe the function of the hospital laboratory and explain how the physician uses lab services including microbiology, blood bank, transfusion, chemistry, + hematology, cytology, and histology labs.
7. Assist a pathologist or laboratory technician in various procedures including frozen sections, needle biopsies, and fine needle aspirations.

Instructional Activities: During this elective, the student will be involved in/experience:

1. Examining tissue specimens and one-on-one tissue diagnosis with various preceptors each day.
2. Closely observing and/or assisting laboratory technicians in the microbiology, blood bank, transfusion, chemistry, hematology, cytology, and histology laboratories.
3. Presenting cases at weekly Tumor Conference.
4. Preparing surgical frozen sections and assisting the preceptors in performing fine needle aspirations, needle biopsies.
5. Assisting the preceptor in performing autopsies
6. Reviewing continuing education questions using established programs such as CheckPath.
7. Studying assigned “unknown” surgical pathology cases and discussing these cases with a preceptor.

Criteria for Grading: During and following this elective, the preceptor will:

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form.
2. Evaluate by direct observation the student’s ability to diagnose surgical pathology cases.
3. Evaluate the quality of the student’s oral presentation at Tumor Conference.
4. Grade test results of unknown cases week 4 and provide summative feedback.
5. Evaluate professional behavior and the quality of assignments.