

Acting Internship Description

Campus: Fargo (Southeast)

Acting Internship Title: Pathology Acting Internship

Location of Acting Internship: Fargo VA HCS

Department: Pathology

Course Number: PATH 9503

Preceptor(s): All Fargo VA HCS Pathology Faculty

Period(s) offered: All

Number of students per period: 1

Phase Available: ONLY Phase 3

Purpose: To provide advanced experience in pathology / clinical laboratory for 4th year students planning on matching in pathology.

Objectives: After completing the acting internship, the student will be able to

1. Process tissues to create specimens for slide review
2. Obtain pertinent chart review prior to slide review
3. Perform slide review, prioritize findings and select a working diagnosis
4. Select additional testing, as required, for pathologic diagnosis
5. Document findings in a timely fashion
6. Communicate findings with clinicians
7. Research a pathologic condition and discuss its clinical correlation

Specialty Specific Objectives: (These should be linked to EPAs and Year 4 learning objectives which can be found at <https://med.und.edu/education-resources/phase3.html#Yr4O> under "Overview & Objectives"

Please include any procedures the student will be expected to perform.

8. Recognize the features of various pathologic conditions as well as various inflammatory diseases.
9. Select and stain specimens for microscopic analysis.
10. Recognize the microscopic appearance of various types of carcinoma.
11. Know the means by which to properly handle surgical specimens to afford accurate diagnoses.
12. Interpret morphological findings in terms of etiology, pathogenesis and with respect to clinicopathologic correlations.
13. Perform gram stain and workup of common bacteria in urine and blood samples to include identification and susceptibility testing.
14. Interpret microscopic urinalysis and peripheral blood smears.

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

1. In a step-by-step fashion, the student will learn how to process a specimen and evaluate macro- and microscopic features of pathologic conditions.
2. Learn various aspects of clinical laboratory medicine to include microscopic analysis of urine and blood samples.
3. Perform workup of microbiologic samples to include specimen processing, gram stain, culture, identification and susceptibility testing.
4. Attend weekly tumor board.
5. Conduct a review of a pathologic condition of their choosing and give a short presentation regarding that condition.

Evaluation Methods: The preceptor will:

1. By direct observation, evaluate the student's ability to perform specimen processing (objective #4)
2. By direct observation, verbal discussion, evaluate the student's selection, performance and interpretation of various special stains for histology. (objectives #4,10)
3. By direct observation, verbal discussion or review or written work, evaluate the student's ability to perform slide review, differential diagnosis and select a working diagnosis. (objective #3-5,10).
4. By direct observation, evaluate the student's ability to interpret microscopic analysis of urine and blood samples. (objective #3,7,10)
5. Administer a 30-point locally designed image-based quiz of commonly encountered microbiologic and pathologic findings.
6. Observation of student's presentation on their chosen pathologic condition for discussion. (objective #11,13)

Assessment:

Evaluation methods #1-6 will be assessed using the Entrustability scale.

Level	Descriptor	Example
1	"I had to do"	Requires complete hands on guidance, did not do, or was not given the opportunity to do
2	"I had to talk them through"	Able to perform tasks but requires constant direction
3	"I had to prompt them from time to time"	Demonstrates some independence, but requires intermittent direction
4	"I need to be there in the room just in case"	Independence but unaware of risks and still requires supervision for safe practice
5	"I would not have needed to be there other than to fulfill regulatory requirements"	Complete independence, understand risks and performs safely, practice ready

**This scale was adapted from the Ottawa surgical competency operating room evaluation (O-SCORE): A tool to assess surgical competence. Acad Med. 2012; 87:1401-407.*

Please indicate below the method of assessment for the specialty specific evaluation methods.

1. Each of the following activities will be graded based upon the Entrustability scale by the pathologist who or in conjunction with histopathology technician and medical laboratory scientist who witnesses the activity:
 - a. Specimen processing
 - b. Specimen staining
 - c. Slide review and working diagnosis
 - d. Clinical laboratory work in hematology and microbiology
2. Activity #5 (quiz) will be multiple choice and graded by the preceptor
3. Activity #6 (presentation) will be graded on a pass/fail basis as determined by the preceptors in attendance.

Please indicate who will be completing the assessment. If more than one preceptor, how will scores be compiled?

Each pathologist who observes 1 a-d done by the student for the purpose of evaluation will submit an Entrustability scale score.

The Entrustability scale score for each activity above will count equally, with the final score being an average of all scores.

Grading Criteria:

To receive honors, the student must:

- Achieve an average Entrustability score of at least 4.0
- Obtain a score of 26 (out of 30) or higher on the end of rotation multiple choice, locally designed quiz with questions being written by staff pathologist.
- Completion of all activities listed under Assessment above
- Have no ratings of 2 or lower

To pass the AI, the student must:

- Achieve an average Entrustability score of at least 3.0
- Obtain a score of 19 or higher on the end of rotation multiple choice quiz.
- Receive no assessment less than 2 in any specific item.
- Completion of all activities

If the student does not pass, remediation will consist of:

If the student fails the quiz, the student will be given the opportunity to review the questions answered incorrectly and review the material with the staff pathologist. The pathologist will provide additional resources to include textbooks, journals as needed. The student must then retake the examination within 2 weeks. The student must obtain a minimum score of 19 out of 30. A student who failed the quiz cannot receive honors, regardless of high passing score on retake.

If a student fails an AI, the AI director and campus dean will work with the student to form a written remediation plan (signed by all 3) that specifically addresses the competencies that the student did not meet during the rotation. A copy of this plan will be sent to Student Affairs. In order to pass the AI, the student will be required to meet the original passing requirements. A student may not receive honors on an AI that was initially failed.