

Elective Description

Campus: Northwest (Minot)

Elective/Experience Title: Anatomic & Clinical Pathology

Location of Elective: Health Sciences Building - Minot, ND

Department: Pathology

Course Number: PATH 9403-02

Preceptor(s): Badie Alakech, MD & Ellen Sigauke, MD

Period(s) Offered: All periods

Number of students per period: 1 student

Course prerequisites:

Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: To understand the role of laboratory and pathology in patient care utilizing clinical information, morphological information, test results and professional communication.

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

1. Describe the general role of a pathologist (*competency 7.3*)
2. Participate in autopsy examinations, including description of the anatomic changes in disease states, and clinical pathologic correlations. (*competency 2.2, 2.3*)
3. Describe the role and importance of adequate clinical information, chart review, need for special stains, immunoperoxidase stains, and plastic thin sections in the processing of routine surgical specimens. (*competency 2.6, 3.2*)
4. Discuss an approach to working up hematologic abnormalities, particularly anemias. (*competency 3.2, 3.3, 3.4*)
5. Describe the clinical significance of morphologic findings in hematologic abnormalities. (*competency 2.2*)
6. Demonstrate the technique of processing and evaluating bone marrow specimen examinations. (*competency 2.6*)
7. Describe the functions of the departments within clinical pathology and the tests that are routinely performed in those departments. (*competency 7.3*)
8. Describe common problems encountered when attempting to obtain reliable results for pathologic tests. (*competency 1.4, 2.6*)

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

1. Assisting the pathologist in daily activities from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This will include daily work, committee meetings and conferences.
2. General reading in pathology as well as current literature search in the various journals, relating to particular, unusual or complicated problems.
3. Give a half-hour presentation on a subject, case or cases at the biweekly pathology conference.
4. Clinical chart review of unusual or interesting cases in surgical pathology or clinical pathology.
5. Review of a variety of on-line and electronic resources regarding pathology and death investigation.
6. Accompany forensic pathologist to court related proceedings including depositions, pre-trial conferences and trials.
7. Unknown examination of pathologic processes in surgical specimens and peripheral blood smears.

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

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form.
2. By review of student's performance on an examination of unknowns evaluate the student's knowledge of basic pathologic processes in surgical specimens, and peripheral blood smears. (*objective 3, 4*)

3. Evaluate by direct observation the student's ability to participate in autopsy evaluations including describing anatomic changes in disease states and clinical pathologic correlations. (*objective 2*)
4. Through discussion with the student evaluate their understanding of the general role of the pathologist and the functions of and tests performed by departments within pathology (*objective 1, 7*).
5. Through discussion with the student evaluate their ability to describe the important features of the process of surgical specimen processing, evaluation of hematologic abnormalities, and the clinical significance of morphologic findings in hematologic abnormalities. (*objective 3,4,5*)
6. By direct observation evaluate the student's ability to process and evaluate bone marrow specimens (*objective 6*).
7. By discussion with the student evaluate their understanding of common problems encountered in obtaining accurate results for pathologic tests (*objective 8*).