

Surgical Pathology	
Part of 24 months recommended in Anatomic Pathology	
<i>Skill level I (First 4-6 months)</i>	Competency Fulfilled
Basic Knowledge (MK, ICS) Demonstrates familiarity with the detailed organization, equipment, and techniques used in the histology laboratory including tissue processing, tissue embedding, preparation and staining of glass slides; communicates information that histotechnologists must have to process and orient tissue properly.	
Stains (MK, SBP) Able to list common stains used for microscopy, their common uses, elements of satisfactory quality, and possible reasons for unsatisfactory preparations.	
Information Gathering (PC, MK, ICS, PBL, P) Demonstrates ability to use computers and other resources to gather and document information that is needed for examination of surgical pathology specimens including patient identification, clinical history, specimen identification, and needed dates and times; consistently gathers such information.	
Special Handling (MK) Demonstrates knowledge of specimens that commonly require special handling (flow cytometry, microbiological cultures, recovery of crystals, electron microscopy, immunohistochemistry, etc.)	
Frozen section skills (PC) Demonstrates competency in selecting, sectioning and staining representative tissue samples for intraoperative frozen sections; able to prepare and evaluate materials for evaluation of margins for tumor resections.	
Grossing Skills (PC, MK, ICS, PBL) For complex specimens (e.g., pancreatectomy, neck dissection, etc.), shows ability to describe, dissect and select tissues for embedding in a way that allows for correct tissue identification and proper fixation while preserving important pathologic findings so that they can be used for clinicopathologic correlation.	
Diagnostic Skills (MK) Recognizes normal and pathologic findings on microscopic sections and can formulate a basic differential diagnosis	
<i>Skill level II (2nd 4-6 months – may be combined with subspecialty rotations)</i>	Competency Fulfilled
Frozen Sections (PC, MK) Demonstrates understanding of indications for and limitations of intraoperative consultation; demonstrates proficiency in interpreting & reporting frozen sections within 15 minutes of receipt in the laboratory.	
Gross Room Skills (PC, ICS, PBL, P) Demonstrates ability to manage workflow in the gross room, assist junior residents with gross dissection, provide accurate gross descriptions of routine and complex specimens, and practices safety in the pathology laboratory.	
Complex Report Writing (MK, ICS) Demonstrates ability to construct complex surgical pathology reports, with knowledge of common grading	

and staging systems applied to malignant neoplasms; able to create synoptic reports when appropriate; able to dictate necessary amendments and/or addenda as needed.	
Quality management Procedures (PBL, SBP) Demonstrate knowledge of procedures for locating missing specimens and resolving questions of specimen identity; shows ability to trouble-shoot mistakes in accessioning, labeling & misidentification of specimens; understands quality control pertaining to histologic sections and special stains and other ancillary techniques.	
Diagnostic Skills (MK) Renders a final diagnosis that is complete, well thought out and appropriate based on available clinical information, gross and microscopic findings and the results of special stains	
Quality Control Project (PBL, SBP) Designs, performs and presents a quality control review project in surgical pathology to the faculty.	
Outside Consultations (PC, ICS, P) Demonstrates knowledge of steps for preparing reports for outside consultation with attention paid to collecting pertinent clinical information, coordinating requests for additional slides or blocks if needed and dictating of the final consultative report in the appropriate format.	