

**Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of Calgary
Calgary Laboratory Services**

**Dermatopathology Fellowship
Guidelines and Objectives**

Introduction

The Dermatopathology Fellowship Program is directed by Dr. T. Brenn, in collaboration with the other members of the Calgary Laboratory Services (CLS) Dermatopathology group, and in association with the Division of Dermatology, Department of Medicine, University of Calgary.

Eligible candidates will have completed residency training in Anatomic Pathology. The procedure of recruitment, funding and training will follow the policies as outlined in the Clinical Fellowship Manual by Calgary Laboratory Services (Policy Number VI 6.010).

Length of the training program is twelve (12) months.

The program includes training in dermatopathology with regular exposure to clinical dermatology. The Fellow will be primarily located at the CLS Diagnostic and Scientific Centre (DSC) and at Richmond Road Diagnostic and Treatment Centre.

General Objectives

Medical Expert/Clinical Decision-Maker

The Fellow should demonstrate a basic understanding of...

- Normal skin anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, and molecular biology
- Genetic basis for skin disease
- Normal microscopic appearance of skin at different anatomic sites and patient ages
- Basic skin ultrastructure: keratinocytes, melanocytes, Langerhan's cells, Merkel cells
- Immunology of the skin
- Gross dissection of skin specimens
- Microscopic appearance and pathobiology of common skin disorders
- Use of immunohistochemistry and immunofluorescence
- Use of molecular diagnostics
- Use of special stains

Communicator

- Listen, and communicate questions and ideas effectively

- Communicate effectively with laboratory staff
- Communicate effectively in written form, specifically in pathology reports

Collaborator

- Contribute effectively to interdisciplinary team activities (communication with dermatologists, attendance at monthly dermatology rounds; participation in dermatology outpatient office practice)

Manager

- Understand important aspects of quality control and quality assurance in dermatopathology

Health Advocate

- No specific objectives

Scholar

- Develop a personal continuing education strategy in dermatopathology
- Propose a research question relevant to dermatopathology, and develop a simple proposal to solve the research question (see specific objectives)
- Participate in dermatopathology teaching sessions for Residents in Anatomic Pathology and in Dermatology (University of Calgary).

Professional

- Exhibit appropriate personal and interpersonal professional behaviour
- Act as an appropriate role model to colleagues and laboratory staff
- Understand the importance of consultation and seeking of appropriate second opinions

Specific Objectives

- Participate in sign-out of routine dermatopathology cases
- Review Consult and Rush cases
- Participate in review of immunofluorescence cases
- Regularly participate in afternoon multihead microscope rounds
- Attend monthly Dermatology rounds
- Review Dermatopathology Course notes and teaching slides
- Prepare a minimum of four personal learning projects on a dermatopathology subject
 1. Identify a question, idea, innovation, tip, or pearl from dermatopathology practice
 2. Critically appraise the information through a review of the literature and/or discussion with colleagues
 3. Assess the application of the learning derived from step 2 to your practice of dermatopathology

- Propose a research question relevant to dermatopathology, and develop a simple proposal to solve the research question
- Review pathologists' personal teaching sets
- Read and review dermatopathology textbooks and literature to obtain an understanding of common skin inflammatory and neoplastic conditions
- Achieve basic understanding of clinical dermatology, pertaining especially to clinical diagnosis and differential diagnosis, and to treatment options.
- Participate in dermatology clinics and other learning opportunities in dermatology on a regular basis

Evaluation

A written evaluation will be prepared at the end of the fellowship program by the members of the dermatopathology group.