

Neuropathology Rotation - Objectives

Medical Knowledge

A. Objectives

1. Become familiar with normal gross and microscopic anatomy of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nervous system, and skeletal muscle, and be able to recognize disease-related deviations from normal anatomy and histology.
2. Understand the application of specialized techniques, such as enzyme histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, electron microscopy, and molecular analyses to neuropathology diagnosis.
3. Understand how pathologic features of neurologic disease correlate with clinical and radiographic findings.

B. Plan

1. These skills and this body of knowledge are gained by a variety of methods, including: ongoing exposure to clinical case material; daily observation and participation in divisional activities; interaction with Neuropathology faculty, fellows, and staff, and with other pathologists and clinicians; attendance at lectures and conferences; directed reading; and independent study of teaching cases and similar materials. Residents are expected to read from both textbooks and journals during the rotation, and key texts are available within the Neuropathology Division. In addition, an annual series of didactic lectures is given by Neuropathology faculty and should be attended as often as possible by AP and AP/CP residents.

C. Supervision/Assessment

1. Resident performance will be assessed through direct observation by Neuropathology faculty, fellows, and office and laboratory staff, and by clinicians and others who interact with the Neuropathology Division.
2. Performance will also be assessed by oral quizzes during regular signout, conference, and didactic activities.
3. Some concepts will be tested through the written multiple choice examination that is administered at the end of the rotation.
4. Input from Neuropathology faculty and staff regarding individual resident performance is solicited by the rotation director, and communicated to the resident through face-to-face verbal as well as formal written evaluations. The formal written evaluation that is completed at the end of the rotation becomes a part of the resident's permanent record.