

Pathology

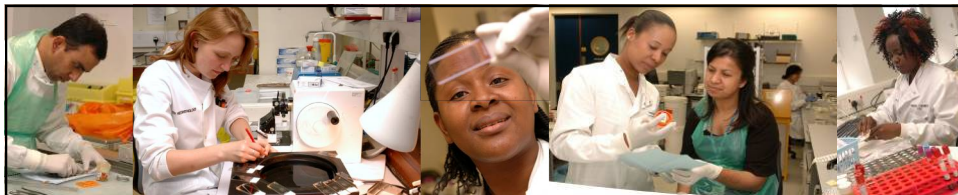
"the hidden science that saves
lives"

Medical Careers Fair – Bristol

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What is pathology?

What words can you think of to describe it?

Who works in Pathology?

What type of work do they do?



Pathology Myths...

- Medical students don't need to learn pathology
 - "Pathology is involved in 70% of all diagnoses made in the NHS"
 - 14 tests for every man, woman and child each year

Pathology Myths (2)

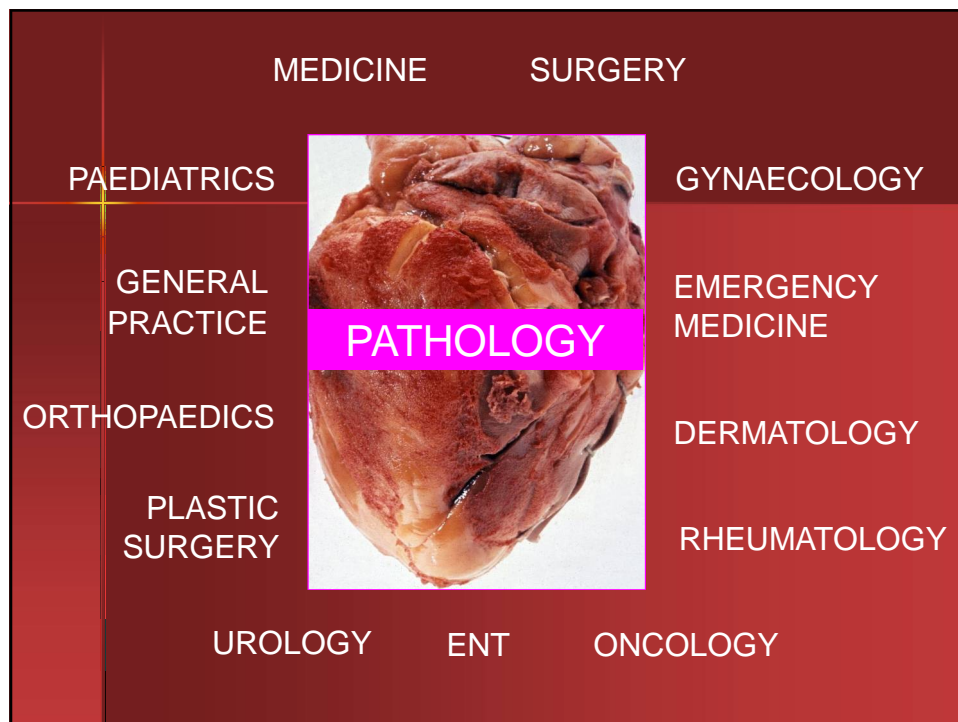
- Pathologists don't care for living patients
 - 6% thought looked after patients in hospital
 - Clinics eg monitoring diabetes/high cholesterol
 - Ward eg transfusions/treatment for Leukemia
 - Infection control

Pathology Myths (3)

- Pathologists work alone in labs doing boring repetitive jobs
 - Repetitive work done by machines
 - Pathologists are the 'disease detectives'
 - Pieces of puzzle together
 - Each patient different

Pathology Myths (4)

- Pathologists don't diagnose cancer
 - Almost all cancers are diagnosed by pathologists



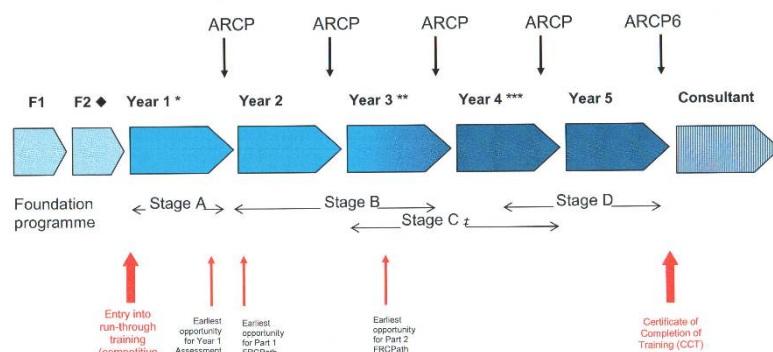
What are the essential requirement?

- Eligibility
- Career progression
- Clinical Skills
 - Clinical knowledge & Expertise
- Academic/Research Skills
 - Demonstrate understanding of importance
- Personal skills
 - Problem Solving & Decision Making
 - Organisation & Planning
 - Communication Skills
 - Managing others & Team involvement
 - Coping with pressure
- Probity
- Commitment to Specialty

The curriculum

- Diagnostic techniques (analytical and clinical principles)
- Knowledge of specialist areas
- Training in communication and teaching skills
- Develop to a required standard to provide specialist opinion
- Acquire management skills to lead a department
- Experience of research/development projects
- Framework for continued professional development (CPD)
- Practical experience of clinical governance/audit against standards of evidence-based medicine.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE OF HISTOPATHOLOGY RUN-THROUGH TRAINING



◆ Entry is also possible from clinical training.

* Trainees must have passed the Year 1 RCPath Assessment by the end of Year 1/Stage A. Failure to pass the Year 1 Assessment will prevent the trainee from progressing to Stage B.

** Trainees must have passed the Part 1 FRCPPath examination by the end of Year 3/Stage B. Failure to pass the Part 1 examination by the end of Year 3 will prevent the trainee from progressing to Stage C.

*** Trainees must have passed the Part 2 FRCPPath examination by the end of Year 4/Stage C. Failure to pass the Part 2 examination by the end of Year 4 will prevent the trainee from progressing to Stage D.

‡ Specialist training – either general histopathology, or subspecialty training in cytopathology, forensic pathology, neuropathology and paediatric pathology.

Learning Methods

- Routine work (Work-based learning)
- Textbooks
- Private study
- 'Black box' and other departmental teaching sessions
- Regional/National training courses & formal PG teaching
- Scientific meetings.
- Practical laboratory experience/Discussion with BMS.
- Multidisciplinary team meetings (MDTs)
- E-learning.
- Learning with peers.
- Medical clinics including specialty clinics.
- Independent self-directed learning.
- Formal study.

Why choose Pathology?

- 9-5 working hours
- No more on-calls
- Run-through training post (5 years)
- Variety in your day-to-day work
- Less stress
- Plenty of tea during your working day!

What to do during your F1/F2?

- Try some taster days in Pathology at your hospital
- Pathology related audit
- National Pathology Week events
- Try to see some post-mortems
(see if you faint!)
- Talk to ST1 & senior trainees

Why I became a Pathologist (by trainee)

- Liked histopathology as a medical student
- Didn't really enjoy ward work
- Chance remark
- Plus no on call, no bleep!!!
- Initially missed patient contact

Day to Day Work

- Cut-up of surgical specimens
- Microscopy
- Post-mortems
- Multi-disciplinary meetings

Conclusion

- Pathologists work for the benefit of the living
- There are 18 different pathology specialties
- Many pathologists work with patients
- Pathologists are team players
- Pathology is an interesting and exciting career
- Pathologists diagnose cancer
- You don't have to be a doctor to work in pathology
- Pathology is a popular specialty
- A knowledge of pathology is essential for all doctors

Useful Resources

- The Royal College of Pathologists
 - www.rcpath.org
- Histopathology Training Schools
 - www.nhshistopathology.net
- Histopathnet
 - www.histopathnet.org
- Leeds Virtual Pathology
 - www.virtualpathology.leeds.ac.uk
- Local resources
 - <http://pathology.severn deanery.org>

Questions?

