

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS: RESIDENT RESEARCH

RESEARCH

Research is an important component of a successful career in Anatomical Pathology. Research experience gained during residency training is helpful when applying for fellowships and staff positions and prepares for a successful career.

RCPSC REQUIREMENTS

The Objectives of Training and Specialty Training Requirements in Anatomical Pathology state that on completion of the residency program in anatomical pathology, the resident will be able to:

- propose a research question relevant to anatomical pathology
- develop a proposal to solve the research question
- conduct an appropriate literature search based on the research question
- identify, consult and collaborate with appropriate content experts to conduct the research
- propose a methodological approach to solve the question
- carry out the research outlined in the proposal
- defend and disseminate the results of the research
- identify areas for further research that flow from the results

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

From the beginning of the PGY2 to the end of the PGY5 year, residents are required to carry out *at least* 2 formal research projects, as follows:

- a quality assurance project
- a formal clinicopathological or basic science study
 - presentation at Annual Research Day for PGY 2,3&4 (see below)
 - at least one publication in a peer reviewed journal during residency as first author

The latter, at least, should be of a caliber that would make it acceptable for presentation at a national or international meeting, and for publication. Residents are expected to submit abstracts for presentation at appropriate meetings and submit their projects for publication.

RESIDENTS' RESEARCH COORDINATOR

Dr. C. Howlett is Coordinator of Resident Research. The Coordinator is available to provide guidance to residents in selecting research projects, including the description of projects available and the suitability of particular projects for individual residents. The Coordinator acts as a resource for obtaining information concerning funding opportunities and maintains a record of resident research projects.

Residents should contact the coordinator at the beginning of each new research project as well as in December, letting the coordinator know what will be presented at the annual Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Research Day

HOW TO BEGIN A RESEARCH PROJECT

If you have an idea for a project, approach the appropriate Faculty member. Alternatively, residents should contact the Coordinator for guidance and suggestions for beginning the process.

TIME FOR RESEARCH

There is no protected time for research. In general, projects must be completed during regular rotations, so it is recognized that residents will have limited time available to them for research activities. If a resident wishes to have a protected period of in-depth research activity, then the resident should arrange a research elective.

RESIDENT RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

Involvement in a research project and presentation of the results at Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Research Day has the following objectives:

- learn to pose a research question and develop an approach to its solution
- learn the basics of research design
- be familiar with techniques appropriate for the research topic
- be familiar with the application of biostatistics
- critically appraise literature
- effectively present the research topic
- develop good communication skills
- answer questions related to the topic in a meeting

PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE RESEARCH DAY

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Research Day includes involvement by residents, graduate students, medical students, and faculty members. This Research Day usually takes place in late winter or in spring. Participation by residents is mandatory, except for those residents who are sitting their Royal College examinations that year.

Both projects, as described above, should be presented at the Research Day, ideally in the PGY3 and PGY4 years. Residents are also expected to have some scholarly activity for presentation in their PGY2 year e.g. a case report.

Prior to the Research Day, all participants will be asked to submit an abstract. The Research Day Committee will decide which residents present a proffered paper and which present posters. Guidelines for preparing abstract, posters, and oral presentations will be provided by the Research Day Committee.

Resident research presentations are judged on their content and presentation, including originality, relevance, personal involvement, knowledge, delivery, and audiovisual component. Prizes are awarded to the best resident projects (both oral and poster presentations).

RESIDENT PUBLICATIONS

Residents will be expected to submit a list of all their published research to the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Western University office, to Cheryl Campbell, by June 30 each year.

Reviewed & Updated by AP Residency Program Committee –

May 31, 2017

May 28, 2018

May 2020