

In order to insure that residents see all tissues at histopathologic sign-out (with the service attending pathologist) that they examine grossly, as of July 1, 1999, the following changes were enacted:

- Residents will microscopically examine at sign out all of the tissues that they gross. The residents working in surgical pathology will be specifically assigned cases by case type and case number in the surgical grossing room. Residents will specifically assigned to one, or a combination of the following general pathology services: GI/Liver, GYN, GU, Breast, and ENT.
- Documentation of cases will be determined by Mr. Foss (see below) who is assigned to triage. Mr. Foss will conduct the overview of this on a day by day basis in conjunction with the Director of Anatomic Pathology. Grossed specimens completed by 5:30 PM will have slides available by 9:00 a.m. the following day.
- It will be the residents responsibility to not only gross the assigned case under appropriate supervision, but also to review the slides before sign out, and sign out the case with the faculty member assigned to that service. The resident will examine the assigned cases, edit the gross dictation, and write a preliminary diagnosis with appropriate SnoMed, CPT, and ICD-9 coding relevant to the practice of pathology in the Department of Pathology prior to sign out.
- The resident will, throughout the day, have access to the pathologist assigned to the specific unit in which he or she is working. The faculty will specifically accommodate the resident for the sign out process in situations where residents may have cases from several services.
- Special accommodations will be made for residents with large cases so that the resident may have the case for 24 hours for review prior to sign out.
- Residents from other services (e.g., cytopathology, dermatopathology, neuropathology, etc.) will not gross GI/Liver, GYN, GU, Breast, or ENT specimens during weekdays.
- When there is no resident assigned to a particular surgical pathology service, tissues for that service will be grossed by the Pathology Assistants.

In summary residents on the GI/Liver, GYN, GU, Breast, or ENT surgical pathology services will: 1) Gross tissues for the service that they are assigned to, 2) Review the histologic slides from those cases prior to sign out, and 3) Present the case to the attending surgical pathologist at sign out.

To insure that residents need only gross those cases that they will see at *sign out*, the department has three full time individuals who assist with grossing surgical pathology: Mr. Robin Foss, P.A., Mr. Trevor L. Jorgensen, P.A., and Mr. Gerald Phipps, P.A. Mr. Foss, Mr. Jorgensen and Mr. Phipps have pathologist supervision at all times from the surgical pathology staff. Mr. Foss's title is Associate Director of Surgical Pathology Services, and in this position he manages the core work in grossing in the surgical pathology suite in Shands Hospital and reports to the Director of Anatomic Pathology. As such the assignment of specific cases for residents can be initiated and closely supervised. Mr. Foss and the staff will also review the residents' progress and record keeping. *In all cases, sign out occurs with the resident on a "one on one" basis with the faculty member.* In the Malcolm Randall Veterans Hospital Gainesville residents gross surgical pathology under supervision of the VA based faculty. A histologist or pathology assistant is available in the VA hospital for assistance in grossing surgical specimens. Cases are signed out with the faculty member assigned to the surgical pathology service.

The Department operates under the College of Medicine's strict compliance plan, which meets the guidelines established by HCFA. Therefore, faculty and staff participation and responsibility are strictly mandated in surgical pathology and cytopathology. The Department does not discriminate between Medicare and non-Medicare patients or their specimens. Our standards of compliance are addressed across the Department and apply to all patients and all specimens. The institutional service requirements of the Department are such that the case load and

conference commitments can be met by the faculty. Resident education is a very high priority in the Department, yet, resident education must operate within the HCFA guidelines.