



SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Dermatopathology Fellowship
Director of Program: Jane L. Messina, MD
USF Health Morsani College of Medicine
University of South Florida

This document pertains to fellow rotations under the auspices of the Dermatopathology Fellowship at USF Morsani College of Medicine, Moffitt Cancer Center, and James A. Haley VA Hospital. All Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), Joint Commission (JC), Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), and CMS guidelines pertaining to graduate medical education apply to this scope of practice.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that fellows are provided adequate and appropriate levels of supervision during the course of the educational training experience and to ensure that patient care continues to be delivered in a safe manner. The privilege of progressive authority and responsibility, conditional independence, and a supervisory role in patient care delegated to each fellow is assigned by the program director and faculty members to ensure effective oversight of fellow supervision.

Each fellow and faculty must inform each patient, if applicable, of their respective roles in patient care. Fellows must know the limits of his/her scope of authority and the circumstances under which he/she is permitted to act with conditional independence. Fellows must communicate with the supervising faculty in the following circumstances: when needing guidance for case workup and when cases are prepared and ready for final sign-out. Although very rare in the course of this fellowship, fellows must also communicate with the supervising faculty when emergency care is rendered by trainee, a patient is upgraded to a higher level of care, when there is an unexpected patient death, unexpected complication, or event report, when a patient or staff request to speak with attending or if the trainee is harmed or threatened. However, all patient care must be provided under a credentialed and privileged attending physician. The attending physician is ultimately responsible for management of the individual patients and the supervision of the fellows involved in the care of the patient. Supervision must be documented in the medical record in accordance with the University of South Florida compliance guidelines.

Fellows and faculty can report concerns regarding inadequate supervision on the GME website or the hospital reporting system. Any reports will be protected from reprisal. This document is available on the GME website for all fellows, faculty, other team members, and patients.

The program follows the ACGME classification of supervision as noted below. The supervising physician can refer to a faculty, fellow, or fellow that who has been given supervisory privilege. These supervisory levels are used throughout the Scope of Practice document.

Direct Supervision

- 1) The supervising physician is physically present with the Fellow during the key portions of the patient interaction.
- 2) The supervising physician and/or patient is not physically present with the Fellow and the supervising physician is concurrently monitoring the patient care through appropriate telecommunication technology.

Indirect Supervision

The supervising physician is not providing physical or concurrent visual or audio supervision but is immediately available to the Fellow for guidance and is available to provide appropriate direct supervision.

Oversight

The supervising physician is available to provide review of procedures/encounters with feedback after care is delivered.

The fellowship program has a curriculum for providing knowledge and performance competence that includes training in review, report preparation and sign-out of dermatopathology cases (including ordering of special and immunohistochemical stains and molecular testing), evaluation of patients in the dermatology clinic, performance of shave and punch biopsies, cryosurgery, preparation of frozen sections, and participation and presentation in defined departmental educational activities, as well as achievement of scholarly productivity. All medical procedures in the fellowship are performed under direct supervision. All fellows are board-eligible in either dermatology or pathology upon commencing the fellowship training. Annual decisions about competence are made by the program's clinical competency committee to ensure a successful transition and preparation for practice, as well as eligibility for dermatopathology subspecialty certification. All fellows need to maintain current ACLS training.

	Supervising Physician present (Direct)	Supervising Physician is not providing physical or concurrent visual or audio supervision but is immediately available (Indirect)	Supervising physician is available to provide a review of procedures/encounters with feedback after care is delivered	
Designated Levels	1	2	3	
CORE PROCEDURES-FELLOW FROM EITHER DERMATOLOGY OR PATHOLOGY RESIDENCY TRAINING BACKGROUND				PGY-5
Independently preview all dermatopathology cases, including biopsies, surgical excisions, immunofluorescence and frozen sections, before signing out with attending faculty				2
Dictate or type a preliminary report on each case, including differential diagnosis				2
At end of first month, independently order histochemical and immunohistochemical stains and molecular tests needed for proper case workup				2

	Supervising Physician present (Direct)	Supervising Physician is not providing physical or concurrent visual or audio supervision but is immediately available (Indirect)	Supervising physician is available to provide a review of procedures/encounters with feedback after care is delivered	
Designated Levels	1	2	3	
Contact clinicians for clinical information needed for proper workup of cases				2
Scrub in on a limited (<5) number of cutaneous surgical cases with surgical oncology faculty				1
Supervise rotating pathology fellows and dermatology fellows during case preview at USF				3
Maintain a log of all pathology cases reviewed				3
Prepare and present an abstract or platform presentation at one dermatopathology meeting				3
Author or co-author one manuscript that is either published or submitted for publication during fellowship				3
CORE PROCEDURES-FELLOW FROM PATHOLOGY RESIDENCY BACKGROUND				PGY-5
Evaluate patients in dermatology clinic and write note				2
Perform shave or punch biopsies in clinic				1
Perform KOH or Tzanck smears in clinic				2
Maintain a log of all clinical cases seen during fellowship				3
CORE PROCEDURES-FELLOW FROM DERMATOLOGY RESIDENCY BACKGROUND				PGY-5
Conduct gross examination and dissection of cutaneous specimens, including biopsies, excisions, sentinel node biopsies and complete lymph node dissections				2
Participate in sign-out of surgical and cytology cases				1

	Supervising Physician present (Direct)	Supervising Physician is not providing physical or concurrent visual or audio supervision but is immediately available (Indirect)	Supervising physician is available to provide a review of procedures/ encounters with feedback after care is delivered	
Designated Levels	1	2	3	
Maintain a log of all pathology and cytopathology cases seen during fellowship				3

DocuSigned by:

Jane Messina

Jane L. Messina, MD
Program Director, Dermatopathology Fellowship

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Effective Date