



DOCUMENTATION OF TRAINING IN VETERINARY PATHOLOGY

Resident's/Trainee's Name (print) _____

PATHOLOGY

In addition to the experience gained throughout the training programme, the Resident/Trainee must obtain at least two weeks (minimum of 80 hours) of training under the supervision of an appropriate specialist. *This requirement should be completed in blocks of time of no less than 1 week duration, and preferably the full 2 weeks full time. It is not acceptable to complete this requirement through accumulation of individual days and half-days throughout the programme.*

The following notes are to aid the Resident/Trainee, Supervisor and Pathology Specialist when planning this training. They are not to be read as a comprehensive or exhaustive curriculum.

Pathology training (80 hours), with at least 40 hours being gross pathology rather than entirely clinical pathology, is required to make the resident / trainee familiar with current techniques and interpretation of results in the veterinary laboratory. Participation, discussion and observation within the laboratory should lead to a deeper appreciation and understanding of the teamwork required by the pathologist, laboratory personnel and veterinary surgeon in providing for optimal patient care. The Trainee is expected to be proactive in searching out opportunities, materials and expert tuition. Compilation and organization of materials for future reference is an important part of this exercise.

This part of the study should be supervised by a Diplomate of the ECVF or ACVP or ECVFP or ACVFP or (*with the prior approval of the Credentials Committee*) another recognized expert.

Areas that should be covered include:

1. **Laboratory Operations and Personnel.** An introduction to laboratory operations is important in having realistic expectations regarding communication, turnaround time, price and quality in laboratory testing. The laboratory experience should include exposure to a variety of technical skills and the training required of laboratory personnel, as well as recognition of their roles and responsibilities. Both the 'art' and 'science' of laboratory medicine should be emphasized.
2. **Quality Assurance and quality control.** Exposure to a variety of types of tests and quality assurance techniques is recommended to provide the trainee with an awareness of quality issues and procedures that reflect best practices for in- hospital testing and for commercial reference laboratories. Aspects that are unique to veterinary medicine, which may require special adaptation from techniques developed for human testing or which may require special veterinary knowledge for interpretation should be included.
3. **Post mortem examination.** This should include techniques and procedures for the systematic macroscopic evaluation of a carcass; collection of specimens for additional testing (microbiologic, serologic, histologic, toxicologic, etc); appropriate handling, preparation and packaging/transport of specimens; and submission of specimens to the laboratory with clear directions for the tests to be performed. The trainee should become familiar with the techniques for histologic preparation and staining, and light microscopic evaluation. Synthetic interpretation of results, organization of the post mortem report, understanding of pathologic terminology and communication with the pathologist should be emphasized.
4. **Cytology.** This should include techniques and procedures for the collection of a variety of types of cytologic specimens, preparation and staining of smears, and light microscopic evaluation. Fixation, handling and packaging of specimens for submission to the laboratory should be covered. Limitations of various cytologic techniques and factors determining the need for referral of specimens to an experienced cytologist should be included. Appreciation of the parts of the cytology report, understanding of pathologic/cytologic terminology and communication with the pathologist should be emphasized.

I have read the guidance notes and to the best of my knowledge,

Name of Resident/Trainee _____

has completed in the period from dd/mm/yyyy till dd/mm/yyyy at least 80 hours of appropriate training in Pathology under my supervision.

Date: _____ Signed: _____

Name Supervisor (print): _____ Qualifications: _____

Institute address: _____