



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Residency Training program
Room 3200-910 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Z 1M9**

NEUROPATHOLOGY

Introduction

The UBC Neuropathology Residency Training Program is a 5-year program offering comprehensive training for certification in the specialty of Neuropathology by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The resident is exposed to a wide variety of material in one of the busiest neuropathology services in Canada. There are strong clinical and academic ties with neurology, neurosurgery, neuroradiology and anatomical pathology. Training is carried out at the Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) and the British Columbia Children's Hospital (BCCH). The clinical neuropathology services are responsible for surgical neuropathology, autopsy neuropathology, forensic neuropathology and peripheral nerve and muscle pathology. The neuropathology faculty is comprised of five neuropathologists at VGH and two at BCCH.

The program starts with general PGY1 year with training in clinical medicine and surgery with specific rotations in Neurology, Pediatric Neurology, Neurosurgery and Neuroimaging and is based on the philosophy of residency programs that a solid general background in clinical skills and knowledge is essential to the development of a pathologist. The remaining years consist of one year in Anatomical Pathology, two years in clinical Neuropathology, and an elective year that can include basic or clinical research, clinical Neuroscience or additional time in some aspect of clinical Neuropathology. Research experience is also encouraged during the neuropathology years.

PGY 1

The common PGY-1 year is in the style of a "rotating internship" with rotations in standard medical and surgical specialties. In addition, there is an emphasis on clinical neurosciences with specific rotations in Neurology, Neurosurgery, Neuroimaging, Neuropathology, Neuro-Oncology and Pediatric Neurology.

Currently, the rotating internship may be completed at one of the three sites: (1) Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster (330 beds with almost 50,000 ER visits in a year); (2) St. Paul's Hospital in Downtown Vancouver; or (3) Victoria network of hospitals.





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For more information about these sites, please see:

http://www.med.ubc.ca/education/Postgraduate_Medical_Education/PGY1_Training_Sites.htm

For residents at UBC in Laboratory Medicine, there is a mini-match process to determine PGY-1 site allocation.

PGY 2-5

The remaining years consist of one year in Anatomical Pathology, two years in clinical Neuropathology, and an elective year that can include basic or clinical research, clinical Neuroscience or additional time in some aspect of clinical Neuropathology. Research experience is also encouraged during the neuropathology years.

Research

Residents are encouraged to initiate and participate in the numerous research opportunities available. Research interests of the faculty include neuro degenerative disease, neuro-oncology, demyelinating disease, and embryopathology. Residents are encouraged to be involved in research projects during their training. PGY3 and PGY4 year residents in all Laboratory Medicine specialties are required to present an original research project at the annual UBC Pathology Day. Research plays an important role, with opportunities to present research at various conferences throughout the residency.

Program Director

Dr. Ian Mackenzie

Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Vancouver General Hospital

