Histopathology

Information Sheet

Wessex Deanery

Current number of training posts:
4-5 ST1s; 19 ST2-5

Based in the following Trust locations:
Throughout Wessex, including Dorchester and Chichester.

Example rotation:
The annual rotation is the first Wednesday in August. Placements are decided annually, taking into consideration the training needs of the individual and of other trainees. Trainees will generally spend 2-3 years in Southampton and 2-3 years within the district general hospitals in the programme (Portsmouth, Bournemouth, Chichester, Salisbury, Dorchester).

General information on the training opportunities
The Histopathology Trainees are appointed annually at ST1 level.
All of the first year placements are based in the Department of Cellular Pathology in Southampton. Almost all of the teaching in the Southampton School is within the Department of Pathology, which is a combined National Health Service and Academic Unit. However, there are close working relationships between pathologists in Southampton University Hospitals and colleagues working in district general hospitals such as Bournemouth and Poole, Chichester, Portsmouth, Salisbury and Winchester.

This training programme, which leads to the award of a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT), is four and a half years in length.

Curriculum for specialty training in histopathology and related subspecialties can be accessed at the website of The Royal College of Pathologists: http://www.rcpath.org/index.asp?PageID=116

There are numerous formal and informal training sessions provided within the programme. Pathologists in training are expected to attend the weekly ‘grand round’, Tuesday afternoon surgical pathology seminars and monthly Regional Meetings. There is a Wednesday afternoon FRCPath course that runs on a two-yearly cycle, but this is designed specifically for ST2-5 and specialist registrars. ST1s have a separate programme of weekly seminars throughout the year. In addition, in the first six months basic training in normal and abnormal histology is provided three times a week using the multi-header microscope. ST1s also have the opportunity to attend three block-teaching weeks during the first year. One of these teaching weeks is held in Southampton and the other two in Bristol and Oxford/Wycombe.

Trainees are also encouraged to attend national meetings and courses organised by the Royal College of Pathologists and other organisations such as the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Royal College of Pathologists is responsible for workplace-based assessments, year 1 assessments and FRCPath examinations.

Key Contacts and Useful Websites:
Head of School – Dr Gill Underhill
Programme Director – Dr Vipul Foria
Programme Manager – Miss Karen McCarthy
www.londondeanery.ac.uk/var/recruitment/specialty-recruitment/national-histopathology-recruitment
www.rcpath.org