

Supplemental Guide: Selective Pathology



November 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
PATIENT CARE	4
REPORTING	6 8
MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE	12
CLINICAL REASONINGKNOWLEDGE OF ESTABLISHED AND EVOLVING BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES	
SYSTEMS-BASED PRACTICE	16
PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (QI)	18 21 23
PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT	26
EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND SCHOLARSHIPREFLECTIVE PRACTICE AND COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL GROWTH	
PROFESSIONALISM	30
PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR AND ETHICAL PRINCIPLES ACCOUNTABILITY AND CONSCIENTIOUSNESS SELF-AWARENESS AND HELP-SEEKING	33
INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS	37
PATIENT- AND FAMILY-CENTERED COMMUNICATION INTERPROFESSIONAL AND TEAM COMMUNICATION COMMUNICATION WITHIN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS	39
MAPPING OF 1.0 TO 2.0	43
RESOURCES	45

Milestones Supplemental Guide

This document provides additional guidance and examples for the Selective Pathology Milestones. This is not designed to indicate any specific requirements for each level, but to provide insight into the thinking of the Milestone Work Group.

Included in this document is the intent of each Milestone and examples of what a Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) might expect to be observed/assessed at each level. Also included are suggested assessment models and tools for each subcompetency, references, and other useful information.

Review this guide with the CCC and faculty members. As the program develops a shared mental model of the Milestones, consider creating an individualized guide (Supplemental Guide Template available) with institution/program-specific examples, assessment tools used by the program, and curricular components.

Additional tools and references, including the Milestones Guidebook, Clinical Competency Committee Guidebook, and Milestones Guidebook for Residents and Fellows, are available on the Resources page of the Milestones section of the ACGME website.

The Milestones are labeled by the accredited track:

- Track A programs accredited for Surgical Pathology
- Track B programs accredited for Focused Anatomic Pathology
- Track C programs accredited for Focused Clinical Pathology

Patient Care 1: Reporting (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To generate reports that are helpful to guide patient care; to include nuanced language in comments as appropriate	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Describes the key elements of a report and the need for timely reporting	 Lists the key elements of a surgical pathology report: clinical history, source of specimen, surgical procedure, gross description, microscopic description, and diagnosis Engages with pathology attending to promote timely turnaround time
Describes the role of comments in a pathology report	List various types of commonly used comments for pathology reports
Level 2 Generates a timely report for a simple case	 Develops a report for tubular adenoma (A/B) Develops a report for simple peripheral blood smear showing acute blood loss anemia (C) Writes report in standard English, using appropriate grammar and syntax
Generates comments and makes simple recommendations	 Indicates the need for additional tissue sampling for molecular testing for lung adenocarcinoma when original biopsy is scant (A/B) Recognizes the need for documentation of intradepartmental consultation
Level 3 Generates a timely report that includes synoptic templates and/or ancillary testing for a complex case, with assistance	 After reviewing the case with an attending, develops a surgical pathology report for a colon resection for cancer, including College of American Pathologists (CAP) synoptic templates and mismatch repair status Writes a report that interprets pathologic findings in light of discordant imaging, with assistance
Generates comments that include the language of uncertainty, as appropriate, with assistance	After reviewing the case with an attending, explains in a comment the differential diagnosis for carcinoma of unknown primary in light of inconclusive immunohistochemical panel
Level 4 Independently generates timely, integrated reports for complex cases	 Independently develops a surgical pathology report for complex case of colon cancer in potential Lynch syndrome, including microsatellite instability testing Consistently generates complex reports incorporating biomarkers with therapeutic implications, such as Her2/Neu testing for breast cancer
Independently generates a nuanced comment that includes the language of uncertainty and complex recommendations	Incorporates an outside consultation report in the comment
Level 5 Independently generates a report that addresses discordant diagnosis or clinical discrepancy	 Drafts an amended report to correct an incorrect diagnosis Reconciles a discordant outside consultation report in the comment

Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation during daily sign-out (with documentation)
	Global evaluation form
	 Review of reports (in real time at sign-out, or by comparing to fellow's draft)
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	CAP. Cancer Protocol Templates. www.cap.org/cancerprotocols . 2020.
	 Nakhleh RE, Myers JL, Allen TC, et al. Consensus statement on effective communication
	of urgent diagnoses and significant, unexpected diagnoses in surgical pathology and
	cytopathology from the College of American Pathologists and Association of Directors of
	Anatomic and Surgical Pathology. <i>Arch Pathol Lab Med.</i> 2012;136(2):148-154.
	https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2011-0400-SA?url_ver=Z39.88-
	2003𝔯_id=ori:rid:crossref.org𝔯_dat=cr_pub%3dpubmed. 2020.
	 Rosai J, Bonfiglio TA, Carson JM, et. al. Standardization of the surgical pathology report.
	Mod Pathol. 1992;5(2):197-199. https://www.nature.com/articles/modpathol201574 . 2020.
	 Smith SM, Yearsley M. Constructing comments in a pathology report: advice for the
	pathology resident. <i>Arch Pathol Lab Med</i> . 2016;140(10):1023-1024.
	https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0220-ED?url_ver=Z39.88-
	2003𝔯_id=ori:rid:crossref.org𝔯_dat=cr_pub%3dpubmed. 2020.

Р	Patient Care 2: Examination (Track A and B)	
Overall Intent: To examine all specimens likely to be encountered as well as to supervise		
Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Identifies the importance of dissection and gross tissue sampling with use of appropriate resources	Wears appropriate personal protective equipment Locates and refers to the grossing manual	
Maintains specimen integrity to avoid sample misidentification	Only has one patient container open at a time	
Level 2 Samples and documents simple cases, with assistance	Grosses colon with single tumor, sampling margins tumor and lymph nodes	
Identifies specimen integrity issues (e.g., fixation, tissue carryover, orientation)	 Changes scalpel blades between specimens Stops grossing when impossible orientation is encountered 	
Level 3 Triages, samples, and documents complex cases, with assistance; independently triages, samples, and documents simple cases	Grosses Whipple specimen, appropriately inking and sampling after discussing with attending	
Resolves specimen integrity issues, with assistance	 Resolves mastectomy orientation problems after discussing with attending With assistance, procures fresh tissue for cytogenetics, microbiologic cultures, or research 	
Level 4 Independently triages, samples, and documents complex cases	 Orients, inks, and samples Whipple specimen without direct supervision Uses imaging or contacts surgeon to resolve mastectomy orientation problems 	
Independently resolves specimen integrity issues	Recognizes switched patient specimens and resolves the situation	
Level 5 Applies innovative grossing techniques and supervises others in gross examination of unusually complex specimens	 Modifies standard grossing technique to address congenitally or surgically altered anatomy Is consulted by non-specialist pathologist or pathologist assistant for grossing post-treatment pelvic exenteration specimen 	
Assessment Models or Tools	 Assessment from pathology assistants Competency assessment Direct observation (e.g., grossing log with documentation of performance on specific specimens) Portfolio Review of metrics related to grossing (e.g., reprocessed blocks or delayed cases) 	

	Surgical pathology metrics and quality review
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	• Lester SC. Manual of Surgical Pathology. 3rd ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2010.

Patient Care 3: Intra-Operative Consultation, including Frozen Section (Track A and B)	
Overall Intent: To demonstrate competence in providing gross and microscopic intra-operative consultation, including indications, technical	
performance, interpretation, and reporting Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Recognizes indications for IOC	Describes reasoning leading to intraoperative consultation for margins of an esophagectomy specimen (A/B)
Discusses specimen-dependent variability in approach to IOC	Discusses reasoning that might lead to surgeon's decision to forego frozen section for a colectomy or cystectomy
Identifies broad diagnostic categories (i.e., benign versus malignant, normal versus abnormal) in routine IOC	Locates the tumor in a frozen section slide
Level 2 Assesses requests for simple IOC and plans workflow, with assistance	Receives requisition form, notes request for frozen section, and initiates frozen section procedure, with assistance
Procures tissue for diagnosis and prepares quality slides for simple specimens, in a timely manner	 For specimen to be frozen entirely, prepares frozen block and cuts slides suitable for diagnostic use Records attending pathologist's diagnosis for frozen section
Interprets and reports routine IOC, with assistance	Calls back frozen section in accordance with local policy
Level 3 Independently assesses and manages requests for simple IOC and plans workflow; for complex cases, addresses requests for IOC, with assistance	Discusses with attending pathologist the sampling of a complex ovarian mass for frozen section
Procures tissue for diagnosis and prepares quality slides for complex specimens, in a timely manner	 Cuts frozen sections that demonstrate appropriate orientation of inked margins Cuts interpretable frozen sections from fatty or calcified specimens
Independently interprets and reports routine IOC	• For routine cases, reliably formulates an independent frozen section diagnosis suitable for clinical use, within expected turnaround time
Level 4 For complex cases, independently manages, prioritizes, and addresses requests for IOC	 Manages workflow when five or more specimens are submitted for frozen at the same time Samples areas likely to be diagnostic within a complex ovarian cyst

Supervises residents and advises technical staff members in the performance of IOC	Leads the frozen section team Teaches more junior learners how to perform frozen sections
Independently interprets and reports IOC for complex cases and uses language of uncertainty, as indicated	 Independently formulates a frozen section diagnosis that provides enough information for surgical management, including in complex cases Recommends deferring final diagnosis to permanent sections in case of small round blue cell tumor
Level 5 Develops a plan for process improvement in the performance of IOC	Identifies a workflow problem in the frozen section lab and makes a plan to correct it
Serves as a consultant for interpreting and reporting IOC	Sought after by colleagues due to expertise in interpreting frozen section slides
Assessment Models or Tools	 Correlation of fellow's impression with attending's intra-operative consultation diagnosis and final diagnoses Direct observation in gross room and review of quality of prepared slides for sign-out (real time) Portfolio review for a range of intra-operative consultation specimens (retrospective) Process improvement outcomes
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	• Peters SR. A Practical Guide to Frozen Section Technique. New York, NY: Springer, 2010.

Patient Care 4: Microscopic Examination and Ancillary Testing for Diagnosis (Track A and B) Overall Intent: To use microscopic examination and/or ancillary techniques to render diagnoses	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Uses microscopic examination to identify normal and abnormal histology	Localizes neoplastic and non-neoplastic tissue in histologic sections Identifies schistocytes on a peripheral blood smear
Identifies need for ancillary testing	 Recognizes immunostains may be necessary but is not certain which ones to obtain Orders H. pylori stain based on clinician's request Orders reflex testing
Level 2 Uses microscopic examination to diagnose simple cases	Correctly works up and diagnoses a "bread and butter" case
Selects and interprets ancillary testing	 Describes how ordered stains would be interpreted, including expected antigen localization and artifacts Orders prostate cocktail for core biopsy tissue sample
Level 3 Uses microscopic examination to generate and prioritize a differential diagnosis for complex cases	Correctly works up a tumor of rare type, after considering an appropriate differential diagnosis
Independently integrates results of ancillary testing into final diagnosis	 Proposes a reasonable immunohistochemical panel for a poorly differentiated malignancy Distinguishes between wild-type and aberrant immunoreactivity of p53 stain to support characterization of histotype
Level 4 Uses microscopic examination to make a diagnosis for complex of challenging cases, including when confounding factors are present	 Correctly diagnoses a tumor of a rare type, distinguishing from mimics Identifies a tissue floater and handles it in a way acceptable to the attending pathologist, based on local practices Classifies disease correctly in the presence of treatment effect or secondary alterations
Reconciles conflicting ancillary testing results Level 5 Serves as a reference for microscopic	Resolves contradictory immunostains to reach a plausible final diagnosis Because of perceived expertise, is asked to look over other learners' cases
examination of complex or challenging cases	Publishes a case report in a peer-reviewed journal
Assessment Models or Tools	 Attending assessment of daily work encounters, documented using global form Direct observation with documentation of performance on specific cases Documentation of performance during unknown conferences and clinical management conferences Standardized assessments and practical exams (rotation slide quiz, Resident In-Service Training Exam (RISE))

Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	Reddy VB, Gattuso P, David O, Spitz DJ, Haber MH. Differential Diagnosis in Surgical
	Pathology. 3rd ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier Saunders; 2011.
	Rekhtman N, Bishop JA. Quick Reference Handbook for Surgical Pathologists. New York,
	NY: Springer; 2011.

Medical Knowledge 1: Clinical Reasoning (Track A, B, and C)	
Overall Intent: To approach a diagnostic work-up in an informed and logical manner using appropriate resources to guide decisions	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates a basic framework for clinical reasoning	Articulates a diagnostic algorithm appropriate to a patient's clinical presentation
Identifies appropriate resources to inform clinical reasoning	Navigates electronic health record (EHR), laboratory information system (LIS), internet, and literature to locate necessary information for a surgical pathology case
Level 2 Uses clinical reasoning to determine relevant information	Extracts pertinent clinical findings from the patient's medical record and distinguishes between relevant and extraneous data
Selects relevant resources based on scenario to inform decisions	Understands and can describe scientific basis for current management recommendations for cervical cancer
	Identifies current consensus guidelines for tissue management in a biopsy on non-small cell lung cancer
Level 3 Synthesizes information to inform clinical reasoning, with assistance	Employs consensus guideline data to appropriately order PD-L1 stain by immunohistochemistry for case of lung cancer
Seeks and integrates evidence to inform diagnostic decision making in complex cases,	Recognizes need for EGFR T790M testing in a patient with recurrent lung adenocarcinoma following treatment
with assistance	 Considers diagnosis of radiation induced angiosarcoma in a patient with a prior history of breast cancer
Level 4 Independently synthesizes information to inform clinical reasoning in complex cases	Investigates patients record to evaluate possibility of tumor predisposition syndrome in a patient with early-onset ovarian cancer
	Uses histopathologic and molecular data to diagnose follicular thyroid neoplasms
Independently seeks out, analyzes, and applies relevant original research to diagnostic decision making in complex clinical cases	 Uses literature to evaluate relevance of genomic data to patient's disease Assists clinician in interpreting pathologic data in clinical decision making for a rare diagnosis
Level 5 Demonstrates intuitive approach to clinical reasoning for complex cases	Is sought out by attending faculty members and/or clinicians for the fellow's expertise
Assessment Models or Tools	Case Logs Clinical management conferences
	 Presentations Review of daily case reports
	The flow of daily sadd reports

	Unknown slide conferences
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	Clinical reasoning relies on appropriate foundational knowledge that requires the trainee
	to apply that knowledge in a thoughtful, deliberate and logical fashion to clinical cases to
	inform clinical care
	• lobst WF, Trowbride R, Philibert I. Teaching and assessing critical reasoning through the
	use of entrustment. J Grad Med Educ. 2013;5(3):517-518.
	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3771188/. 2020.

Medical Knowledge 2: Knowledge of Established and Evolving Biomedical, Clinical, Epidemiological, and Social-Behavioral Sciences (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences, and apply it to patient care **Milestones Examples** • States clinical relevance of diagnosis of conventional papillary thyroid cancer (A/B) Level 1 Demonstrates basic medical knowledge • Knows predisposing factors for human papillomavirus (HPV)-related lesions of oropharynx acquired in residency • Matches patient's travel history with disease endemic to that area Demonstrates basic knowledge of molecular • Describes mechanism of special stains and immunostain techniques • Knows the difference between ancillary testing based on deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and techniques, immunohistochemistry, and/or histochemistry ribonucleic acid (RNA) • Identifies common causes of microcytic, hypochromic anemia • States clinical relevance of diagnosis of variants of papillary thyroid cancer Level 2 Demonstrates advanced medical knowledge, including common neoplastic and • Identifies high-risk HPV serotypes and can begin to explain the cellular biology behind its non-neoplastic diseases as applicable tumorigenesis • Summarizes rationale for using immunostains in a specific context Demonstrates advanced knowledge of molecular techniques, immunohistochemistry. • Describes pathophysiologic basis of microcytic, hypochromic anemia, and discusses and/or histochemistry differential diagnosis thereof Level 3 Applies advanced medical knowledge, • States clinical relevance of diagnosis of rare and emerging variants of papillary thyroid including uncommon neoplastic and noncancer neoplastic diseases as applicable • Explains HPV-driven tumorigenesis independently and recognizes that other pathways can lead to carcinoma as well Applies advanced knowledge of molecular • States sensitivity and specificity of immunostains for a specific disease • Describes common molecular alterations in the diagnosis of soft tissue neoplasms and techniques, immunohistochemistry, and/or suggests specific ancillary testing histochemistry • Compare and contrast different types of anemia (based upon pathophysiology) and apply that knowledge to accurate interpretation of patient results **Level 4** Integrates advanced medical Quotes the literature describing criteria for variants of papillary thyroid cancer knowledge, including uncommon neoplastic and • Discusses the rationale for management guidelines of HPV-related lesions based on non-neoplastic diseases as applicable, with anatomic site reference to literature

Integrates advanced knowledge of molecular techniques, immunohistochemistry, and/or histochemistry with reference to literature	 Cites literature supporting assertions about immunostains Is sought out by other learners due to expertise in using ancillary techniques Recommends and interprets stains that are emerging, uncommonly used, or not performed in-house Create differential diagnosis for complex complete blood count (CBC) result, propose
Level 5 Critiques current state of medical knowledge and places it in historical context	 diagnostic work-up, and accurately diagnose results in case of rare hemoglobinopathy (C) Describes evidence leading to reclassification of non-invasive follicular thyroid neoplasms with papillary-like nuclear features
	 Identifies areas where research is needed to fill gaps in medical knowledge Uses knowledge of molecular pathways to help guide clinicians with secondary testing for therapeutic options
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Presentations RISE or similar in-service exam Teaching evaluations
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Committee on Diagnostic Error in Health Care, Board on Health Care Services, Institute of Medicine, et al. <i>Improving Diagnosis in Health Care</i>. Washington, D.C.: National Academic Press; 2015. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK338596/. 2020. Nass SJ, Cohen MB, Nayar R, et al. Improving cancer diagnosis and care: Patient access to high-quality oncologic pathology. <i>Oncologist</i>. 2019;24(10):1287-1290. https://theoncologist.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1634/theoncologist.2019-0261. Ogino S, Nishihara R, VanderWeele TJ, et al. Review article: The role of molecular pathological epidemiology in the study of neoplastic and non-neoplastic diseases in the era of precision medicine. <i>Epidemiology</i>. 2016;27(4):602–611. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4892980/. 2020.

anagement of patient safety events, including relevant communication with patients, ct a QI project Examples • Recognizes specimen swap or patient identification error
Examples
Recognizes artifacts on slides
Identifies event reporting system
 Understands basic LEAN principles Describes fishbone diagram Describes other methods of evaluating error in a root cause analysis
Describes other methods of evaluating error in a root cause analysis Describes pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical sources of patient safety events
Initiates a reporting process for a patient safety event
• Is aware of improvement initiatives within their scope of practice
 Attends a root cause analysis or patient safety debrief Investigates source of tissue contamination
 Is present when attending discloses a safety event to a surgeon Assesses clinical impact of frozen section discrepancy
 Participates in QI activities though they may not have yet designed a QI project Presents at consensus conference
Serves as a team lead for all or part of a root cause analysis

Discloses patient safety events to clinicians and/or patients and families, as appropriate (simulated or actual)	Calls the surgeon to inform them of a lost or delayed specimen or amended report
Demonstrates the skills required to identify, develop, implement, and analyze a QI project	Initiates and completes a QI project, including communication with stakeholders
Level 5 Actively engages teams and processes to modify systems to prevent patient safety events	Competently assumes a leadership role at the departmental or institutional level for patient safety and/or QI initiatives, possibly even being the person to initiate action or call attention to the need for action
Role models or mentors others in the disclosure of patient safety events	
Creates, implements, and assesses QI initiatives at the institutional or community level	
Assessment Models or Tools	 Chart or other system documentation by fellow Direct observation Documentation of QI or patient safety project processes or outcomes (e.g., policy, proposal, presentation, report, poster) E-module multiple choice tests Narrative or reflective compositions Participation in quality-related committees or process improvement meetings, with documentation Portfolio 360-degree evaluations
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Institute of Healthcare Improvement. http://www.ihi.org/Pages/default.aspx. 2020. Sirota RL. Defining error in atomic pathology. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/full/10.1043/1543-2165%282006%29130%5B604%3ADEIAP%5D2.0.CO%3B2. 2020. Nakhleh RE. Patient safety and error reduction in surgical pathology.

	2: Systems Navigation for Patient-Centered Care (Track A, B, and C)
	th care system, including the interdisciplinary team and other care providers, to adapt care to
a specific patient population to ensure high-qua Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of case coordination	Identifies the members of the interprofessional team, including histotechnologists, laboratory technicians, pathologist assistants, consultants, other specialty physicians, nurses, and consultants, and describes their roles but is not yet routinely using team members or accessing all available resources
Identifies key elements for safe and effective transitions of care and hand-offs	Lists the essential components of an effective care transition including sharing information necessary for successful on-call/off-call transitions for blood banking apheresis procedure and ongoing surgical case in operating room requiring frozen sections
Demonstrates knowledge of population and community health needs and disparities	• Identifies components of social determinants of health and how they impact the delivery of patient care
Level 2 Coordinates care of patients/specimens in routine cases effectively using interprofessional teams	Ensures appropriate turnaround time based on patient appointment or procedure
Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in routine situations	 Follows hand-off policy at the end of call night or rotation Identifies different populations within own panel of patients, cases, and/or the local community
Identifies pathology's role in population and community health needs and inequities for the local population	Knows which patients are at high risk for specific health outcomes related to health literacy concerns, cost of testing or therapy, LGBTQ status, etc.
Level 3 Coordinates care of patients/specimens in complex cases effectively using interprofessional teams	At interdisciplinary tumor boards/medical rounds, engages in appropriate discussion of patient care testing options and impact on therapy for complex pathologic cases
Performs safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs in complex situations	 When performing hand-offs, prioritizes cases and provides complete information Reconciles consult pathology by calling referring pathologist on a patient who has been transferred in for continued care, and requests additional outside material (A/B) Coordinates specimen handling, ordering of needed tests, and courier schedules (C)
Identifies opportunities for pathology to participate in community and population health	Recognizes polymorphism that is more prevalent in local population Recognizes regional variation in the prevalence of infectious diseases

Level 4 Models effective coordination of patient- centered care among different disciplines and specialties	 Coordinates and completes exemplary presentation at tumor board and follows up on additional testing requests (A/B) Performs quality reviews and correlations between bronchial wash and lung biopsy results to assure appropriate follow-up Proactively calls the outpatient doctor to ensure a discharged patient will be followed for their international normalized ratio checks Coordinates and prioritizes consultant input for a new high-risk diagnosis of thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura
Models and advocates for safe and effective transitions of care/hand-offs within and across health care delivery systems	 Maintains the integrity of information flow from the intra-operative consultation with the surgeon to the resident grossing bench (A/B) Supervises residents in following hand-off policy
Recommends and/or participates in changing and adapting practice to provide for the needs of communities and populations	 Recommends adding new tests to menu based upon updates in society guidelines (A/B) Identifies patient populations at high risk for poor healthcare outcomes related to hemoglobin A1c or lipids due to health disparities and inequities in screening (C)
Level 5 Analyses the process of care coordination and leads in the design and implementation of improvements	Identifies patterns of lapses in care coordination and implements process improvements
Improves quality of transitions of care within and across health care delivery systems to optimize patient outcomes	 Works with a QI mentor to identify better handoff tools for on-call pathology services or to improve teaching sessions
Leads innovations and advocates for populations and communities with health care inequities	 Designs a social determinants of health curriculum to help others learn to identify local resources and barriers to care and laboratory testing; effectively uses resources, such as telehealth and telepathology for proactive outreach Models or develops new, specialized service line in order to improve care Champions a new multidisciplinary conference
Assessment Models or Tools	 Attendance records at lectures/rounds Case management quality metrics and goals mined from EHR, anatomic pathology or clinical pathology laboratory informatics systems Chart review Direct observation (including discussion during rounds, case work-up and case
	presentations) • End-of-rotation evaluation • Pathology report review

	Review of sign-out tools, use and review of checklists between pathology services
	360-degree feedback from the interprofessional team
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	Aller RD. Pathology's contributions to disease surveillance: sending our data to public
	health officials and encouraging our clinical colleagues to do so. Archives of Path Lab
	Med. 2009;133(6):926-932. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.1043/1543-2165-
	133.6.926?url ver=Z39.88-2003𝔯 id=ori:rid:crossref.org𝔯 dat=cr pub%3dpubmed
	2020.
	CDC. Population Health Training in Place Program (PH-TIPP).
	https://www.cdc.gov/pophealthtraining/whatis.html. 2020.
	CAP. Competency Model for Pathologists.
	https://learn.cap.org/content/cap/pdfs/Competency Model.pdf. 2020.
	Kaplan KJ. In pursuit of patient-centered care. http://tissuepathology.com/2016/03/29/in-
	pursuit-of-patient-centered-care/#axzz5e7nSsAns. 2020.

Systems-Rased Practi	ice 3: Physician Role in Health Care System (Track A, B, and C)
	e in the complex health care system and how to optimize the system to improve patient care
and the health system's performance	e in the complex health care system and now to optimize the system to improve patient care
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Identifies key components of the complex health care system (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, finance, personnel, technology)	Outlines the organizational chart for the local health system, physician practice plan, and pathology laboratory
Describes basic health payment systems (e.g., government, private, public, uninsured care) and practice models	 Gives basic description of Medicare, Medicaid, the Veterans Affairs (VA), and commercial third-party payers Describes the rationale for current procedural terminology (CPT) coding
Level 2 Describes how components of a complex health care system are interrelated, and how this impacts patient care	Understands the impact of health plans on reimbursement for pathology services
Documents testing detail and explains the impact of documentation on billing and reimbursement	With indirect supervision, inputs appropriate coding for a routine patient specimen Compares and contrasts pay for service and capitated payment models
Level 3 Discusses how individual practice affects the broader system (e.g., test use, turnaround time)	 Understands, accesses, and analyzes his/her own individual performance data using a case log, call log, or grossing log Reflects on how own practices effect turnaround time
Engages with clinicians and/or patients in shared decision making, such as use of preauthorization for complex testing	 Inputs appropriate coding for a complex patient specimen Uses multidisciplinary tumor board discussion to choose the most cost-effective testing depending on the relevant clinical needs
Level 4 Manages various components of the complex health care system to provide efficient and effective patient care and transition of care	Works with the institution to improve patient resources or workflows
Practices and advocates for cost effective patient care with consideration of the limitations of each patient's payment model	Adopts testing utilization that integrates cost-effectiveness with best practices
Level 5 Advocates for or leads systems change that enhances high-value, efficient, and effective patient care and transition of care	Performs a LEAN analysis of laboratory practices to make laboratory testing more efficient

Participates in health policy advocacy activities	Serves on a CAP committee
Assessment Models or Tools	Audit of testing usage
	Direct observation
	• QI project (perhaps as part of a portfolio): NOTE: The project may serve as an excellent
	assessment model/tool to assess this subcompetency. The program can develop criteria
	to ensure the fellow can access and analyze personal practice data, and work with others
	to design and implement action plans, and subsequently evaluate the outcome and the
	impact of the plan(s).
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Measuring the Quality of Physician Care.
	https://www.ahrq.gov/talkingquality/measures/setting/physician/index.html. 2020.
	AHRQ. Major Physician Measurement Sets.
	https://www.ahrq.gov/talkingquality/measures/setting/physician/measurement-sets.html.
	2020.
	• American Board of Internal Medicine. QI/PI Activities. https://www.abim.org/maintenance-
	of-certification/earning-points/qi-pi-activities.aspx. 2020.
	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. MACRA.
	https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-
	Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs. 2020.
	The Commonwealth Fund. Health Reform Resource Center.
	http://www.commonwealthfund.org/interactives-and-data/health-reform-resource-
	center#/f:@facasubcategoriesfacet63677=[Individual%20and%20Employer%20Responsi
	bility. 2020.
	• The Commonwealth Fund. Health System Data Center.
	http://datacenter.commonwealthfund.org/? ga=2.110888517.1505146611.1495417431-
	1811932185.1495417431#ind=1/sc=1. 2020.
	• Dzau VJ, McClellan M, Burke S, et al. Vital directions for health and health care: priorities
	from a National Academy of Medicine Initiative. <i>NAM Perspectives</i> . Discussion Paper, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC. https://nam.edu/vital-directions-for-
	health-health-care-priorities-from-a-national-academy-of-medicine-initiative/. 2020.
	The Kaiser Family Foundation. www.kff.org . 2020.
	The Kaiser Family Foundation: www.kff.org/topic/health- The Kaiser Family Foundation: Topic: health reform. https://www.kff.org/topic/health-
	reform/. 2020.
	ICIONIII. 2020.

Systems-Based Practice 4: Accreditation, Compliance, and Quality (Track A, B, and C)

Overall Intent: To gain in-depth knowledge of the components of laboratory accreditation, regulatory compliance, and quality management

Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge that laboratories must be accredited	 Attends departmental quality assurance/quality control meetings, morbidity and mortality (M and M) conferences and accreditation/regulatory summation meetings Drafts reports using standard comments and other language required for compliance
Discusses the need for quality control and proficiency testing	Describes the lab's participation in a physical therapy program
Level 2 Demonstrates knowledge of the components of laboratory accreditation and regulatory compliance (e.g., Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments), either through training or experience	 Assesses quality of quality control slides for immunohistochemical stains Compares frozen section to final diagnosis for own cases Attends a root cause analysis Performs CAP cancer protocol audit of in-house malignancies
Interprets quality data and charts and trends, including proficiency testing results, with assistance	Interprets daily instrument quality control and proficiency test reports
Level 3 Identifies the differences between accreditation and regulatory compliance; discusses the process for achieving accreditation and maintaining regulatory compliance	Can describe difference between CLIA and CAP Actively participates in a root cause analysis
Demonstrates knowledge of the components of a laboratory quality management plan	Completes CAP inspector training to understand process for achieving/maintaining regulatory/accreditation compliance
Discusses implications of proficiency testing failures	Begins to actively participate in regular laboratory quality management duties; compares frozen section to final diagnosis log for department
Level 4 Participates in an internal or external laboratory inspection	Performs mock or self-inspection using a CAP checklist
Reviews the quality management plan to identify areas for improvement	Assists in developing a strategy for handling QC or proficiency testing failures

Performs analysis and review of proficiency testing failures and recommends a course of	
action, with oversight Level 5 Serves as a resource for accreditation at the regional or national level	Serves on a regional or national committee relating to accreditation
Creates and follows a comprehensive quality management plan	Assists in developing quality metrics for the laboratory
Independently formulates a response for proficiency testing failures	Serves as an assistant medical director or junior medical director
Assessment Models or Tools	 Assignment of duties for departmental or hospital quality assurance/quality control committees Documentation of inspector training and participation in fellow portfolio Planning and completion of QI projects Presentation at M and M conferences Rotation evaluations
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 CAP. Inspector Training. https://www.cap.org/laboratory-improvement/accreditation/inspector-training. 2020. Idowu MO, Nakhleh RE. Quality assurance in anatomic pathology. In: Wagar EA, Cohen MB, Karcher DS, Siegal GP. Laboratory Administration for Pathologists. 2nd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists; 2019. Zhai QJ, Siegal GP. https://www.cap.org/laboratory-improvement/accreditation/inspector-training. 2020. Idowu MO, Nakhleh RE. Quality assurance in anatomic pathologysts. 2nd ed. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists; 2019. Zhai QJ, Siegal GP. Quality Management in Anatomic Pathology. Northfield, IL: College of American Pathologists; 2017.

Systems-Based Practice 5: Utilization (Track A, B, and C)	
Overall Intent: To develop cost-sensitive and evidence-based laboratory testing practices, including considerations of medical necessity,	
quality, and resource stewardship Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Identifies general selective pathology	Identifies key elements of ordering practices
work practices and workflow (e.g., molecular	Explains the need for p16 immunohistochemical staining or HPV testing in cases of
diagnostic, histology, immunohistochemistry	oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma and the impact that has on the diagnosis (A/B)
stains, chemical tests)	Is aware of ancillary testing resources available in own institution and common send-out
stairis, chemical tests)	tests
Level 2 Explains rationale for utilization patterns	Identifies appropriate or inappropriate ordering and overutilization
in own practice setting	Describes the benefits and drawbacks of having a laboratory protocol for cutting
	unstained slides upfront on lung biopsy specimens (A/B)
Level 3 Identifies opportunities to optimize	Intervenes in inappropriate or overutilization situations
utilization of pathology resources	• Explains the indications for molecular testing in non-small cell lung cancer, recognizes
	cases for which testing is not indicated (A/B)
Level 4 Initiates efforts to optimize utilization	Independently identifies interventions to drive change
	• Identifies a pattern of ordering the incorrect PD-L1 antibody clone for head and neck
	squamous cell carcinoma and provides educational materials on the topic to help improve
	ordering practices (A/B)
Level 5 Completes a utilization review and	Evaluates the ordering patterns for an immunohistochemical stain being sent out to a
implements change	reference laboratory, recognizes a cost benefit of bringing the stain in-house, and assists
	in the validation of the new immunohistochemical stain (A/B)
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	Global evaluation
	Mentor and program director observations
	Multisource feedback
	Oral or written self-reflection
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	• Freedman DB. Towards better test utilization - strategies to improve physician ordering
	and their impact on patient outcomes. <i>EJIFCC</i> . 2015;26(1):15-30.
	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4975220/. 2020.
	• Gross DJ, Kennedy M, Kothari T, et al. The role of the pathologist in population health.
	Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2019;143(5):610-620.
	https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/full/10.5858/arpa.2018-0223-CP. 2020.
	• Laposata M. Putting the patient first - using the expertise of laboratory professionals to
	produce rapid and accurate diagnoses. <i>Lab Med.</i> 2014;45(1):4-5.
	https://academic.oup.com/labmed/article/45/1/4/2657735. 2020.

clinical practice

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 1: Evidence-Based Practice and Scholarship (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To incorporate evidence into clinical practice and is involved in contributing to the body of knowledge in pathology **Milestones Examples** Level 1 Demonstrates how to access and select • Recognizes that molecular testing is useful in the work-up for select tumors (A/B) applicable evidence Is aware of the need for patient privacy, • Identifies the need for an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval when collecting cases autonomy, and consent as applied to clinical for a possible research project research • Orders fluorescence in situ hybridization for synovial sarcoma, confirming a single favored **Level 2** Identifies and applies the best available evidence to guide diagnostic work-up of simple diagnosis (A/B) cases Develops knowledge of the basic principles of research (demographics, Institutional Review • Drafts an IRB protocol with attending oversight Board, human subjects), including how research • Submits an abstract for a national meeting is evaluated, explained to patients, and applied to patient care Level 3 Identifies and applies the best available • Uses immunostains to work up carcinoma of unknown primary in a stepwise fashion (A/B) evidence to guide diagnostic work-up of complex cases Applies knowledge of the basic principles of • Drafts an IRB protocol with minimal oversight research such as informed consent and research protocols to clinical practice, with supervision Level 4 Critically appraises and applies Appropriately researches the primary literature to explain unexpected findings that surface evidence to guide care, even in the face of from ancillary testing conflicting data • Moderates a discussion with clinicians over disparate molecular, morphologic, and/or immunohistochemical findings of a tumor to formulate the best course forward based on the primary literature (A/B) Proactively and consistently applies knowledge • Submits a paper for publication of the basic principles of research such as informed consent and research protocols to

Level 5 Teaches others to critically appraise and apply evidence for complex cases; and/or participates in the development of guidelines	Moderates a discussion with clinicians to incorporate evolving clinical practices into pathology workflow based on evidence
Suggests improvements to research regulations and/or substantially contributes to the primary literature through basic, translational, or clinical research	Submits a grant proposal
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	Presentation
	Research portfolio
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	Institutional IRB guidelines
	National Institutes of Health. Write Your Application. https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-
	apply-application-guide/format-and-write/write-your-application.htm. 2020.
	U.S. National Library of Medicine. PubMed Tutorial.
	https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmedtutorial/cover.html. 2020.
	Various journal submission guidelines

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement	ent 2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal Growth (Track A, B, and C)
	formation with the intent to improve care; reflects on all domains of practice, personal
	technologists, colleagues and patients (if applicable) (i.e., reflective mindfulness); develop
clear objectives and goals for improvement in s	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Accepts responsibility for personal and professional development by establishing goals	 Is aware of process of using Milestones for self-assessment States personal learning goals
professional development by establishing goals	• States personal learning goals
Identifies the gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Keeps a record of correct and incorrect diagnoses (A/B)
Actively seeks opportunities to improve	Is beginning to seek ways to determine where improvements are needed and makes some specific goals that are reasonable to execute and achieve
Level 2 Demonstrates openness to receiving performance data and feedback in order to inform goals	After working with an attending for a week, asks about performance and opportunities for improvement
Analyzes and reflects on the factors which contribute to gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Identifies performance gaps in terms of diagnostic skills and daily work; uses feedback from others
Designs and implements a learning plan, with assistance	Uses feedback with a goal of improving communication skills with technologists, peers/colleagues, staff members, and patients (if applicable) the following week
Level 3 Seeks performance data and feedback with humility	Takes input from technologists, peers/colleagues, and supervisors to gain nuanced insight into personal strengths and areas to improve
Institutes behavioral change(s) to narrow the gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Humbly acts on input and is appreciative rather than defensive
Independently creates and implements a learning plan	Documents goals in a more specific and achievable manner, such that attaining them is reasonable and measurable
Level 4 Actively and consistently seeks performance data and feedback with humility	Regularly updates learning plan based on performance data and feedback

Critically evaluates the effectiveness of behavioral changes in narrowing the gap(s) between expectations and actual performance	Consistently identifies ongoing gaps and chooses areas for further development
Uses performance data to measure the effectiveness of the learning plan and improves it when necessary	Actively discusses learning goals with supervisors and colleagues
Level 5 Models seeking performance data and accepting feedback with humility	Presents own errors at quality assurance conference and solicits feedback for improvement
Coaches others in reflective practice	 Openly shares learning goals to seek additional experiences Encourages other learners on the team to consider how their behavior affects the rest of the team
Facilitates the design and implementing learning plans for others	Guides other learners in creating a learning plan
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation Review of learning plan
	Self-assessment of milestones
	Self-reflection
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Burke AE, Benson B, Englander R, Carraccio C, Hicks PJ. Domain of competence: practice-based learning and improvement. <i>Acad Pediatr</i>. 2014;14: S38-S54. https://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859(13)00333-1/fulltext. 2020. Hojat M, Veloski JJ, Gonnella JS. Measurement and correlates of physicians' lifelong learning. <i>Academic Medicine</i>. 2009;84(8):1066-1074.
	https://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/fulltext/2009/08000/Measurement and Correlates of Physicians Lifelong.21.aspx. 2020.
	 Lockspeiser TM, Schmitter PA, Lane JL, Hanson JL, Rosenberg AA, Park YS. Assessing residents' written learning goals and goal writing skill: validity evidence for the learning goal scoring rubric. <i>Academic Medicine</i>. 2013;88(10):1558-1563.
	https://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/fulltext/2013/10000/Assessing_Residents_W_ritten_Learning_Goals_and.39.aspx. 2020.

Professionalism 1: Professional Behavior and Ethical Principles (Track A, B, and C)		
	es in ethical and professional behavior, demonstrates ethical and professional behaviors, and	
use appropriate resources for managing ethical and professional dilemmas		
Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of the ethical principles underlying informed consent, surrogate decision making, advance directives, confidentiality, error disclosure, stewardship of limited resources, and related topics	 Has completed institutional training course for privacy and information security (HIPAA) compliance Has completed required institutional IRB training courses before undertaking research project Knows the procedures for reporting breaches in compliance and ethics to relevant institutional authority Understands the importance of disclosure of conflicts of interest 	
Describes when and how to appropriately report professionalism lapses, including strategies for addressing common barriers; identifies and describes potential triggers for professionalism lapses	Discusses the basic principles underlying ethics (beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice, autonomy) and professionalism (professional values and commitments), and how they apply in various situations (e.g., informed consent process)	
Level 2 Analyzes straightforward situations using ethical principles	Obtains informed consent or IRB approval/waiver before using tissue for research	
Demonstrates insight into professional behavior in routine situations; takes responsibility for one's own professionalism lapses	 Demonstrates professional behavior in routine situations and uses ethical principles to analyze straightforward situations, and can acknowledge a lapse without becoming defensive, making excuses, or blaming others (e.g., takes responsibility for own tardiness or lack of preparation; honestly reporting mishandling of specimen) Apologizes for lapses when appropriate and takes steps to make amends if needed; articulates strategies for preventing similar lapses in the future Does not engage in gossiping or spreading rumors 	
Level 3 Recognizes the need and uses relevant resources to seek help in managing and resolving complex ethical situations	 Analyzes complex situations that evokes strong emotions Discusses ethical implications of a case with supervising pathologists Identifies the signs of and raises concern about impaired/incompetent colleagues to supervisor 	
Demonstrates professional behavior in complex or stressful situations	 Navigates a situation while not at personal best due to fatigue, hunger, or stress Navigates a situation where systemic barriers like inefficient workflow, inadequate staffing, or conflicting policies threaten professional behavior 	
Level 4 Independently resolves and manages complex ethical situations	Uses ethics and risk management consultation for resolving ethical dilemmas	

Recognizes situations that may trigger professionalism lapses and intervenes to prevent lapses in self and others Level 5 Identifies and seeks to address system-level factors that induce or exacerbate ethical problems or impede their resolution	 Actively seeks to consider the perspectives of others Models respect for patients and expects the same from others Monitors and responds to fatigue, hunger, stress, etc., in self and team members Serves as a fellow member on the IRB or ethics committee Collaborates with other departments to troubleshoot situations that threaten professional relations
Coaches others when their behavior fails to meet professional expectations	At an appropriate time as the situation dictates, counsels fellow learner not performing at personal best due to fatigue, hunger, or stress
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Global evaluation Mentor and program director observations Multisource feedback Oral or written self-reflection (e.g., of a personal or observed lapse, ethical dilemma, or systems-level factors) Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 American Board of Internal Medicine, ACP-ASIM Foundation, European Federation of Internal Medicine. Medical professionalism in the new millennium: a physician charter. <i>Ann Intern Med.</i> 2002;136:243-246. http://abimfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Medical-Professionalism-in-the-New-Millenium-A-Physician-Charter.pdf. 2020. American Medical Association. Ethics. https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ama-code-medical-ethics. 2020. Brissette MD, Johnson K, Raciti PM, et al. Perceptions of unprofessional attitudes and behaviors: implications for faculty role modeling and teaching professionalism during pathology residency. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0477-CP. 2020. Byyny RL, Papadakis MA, Paauw DS. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0477-CP. 2020. Byyny RL, Papadakis MA, Paauw DS. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0477-CP. 2020. Conran RM, Powell SZ, Domen RE, et al. Development of professionalism in graduate medical education: a case-based educational approach from the College of American Pathologists' Graduate Medical Education Committee. 2018;5: 2374289518773493. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6039899/. 2020.

- Domen RE, Johnson K, Conran RM, et al. Professionalism in pathology: a case-based approach as a potential education tool. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 2017;141:215-219. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0217-CP?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr_dat=cr_pub%3dpubmed.2020.
- Domen RE, Talbert ML, Johnson K, et al. Assessment and management of professionalism issues in pathology residency training: results from surveys and a workshop by the graduate medical education committee of the College of American Pathologists. *Acad Pathol.* 2015; 2:2374289515592887. https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/2374289515592887 2020.
- Levinson W, Ginsburg S, Hafferty FW, Lucey CR. *Understanding Medical Professionalism*. 1st ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education; 2014.

Professionalism 2: Accountability and Conscientiousness (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To take responsibility for one's own actions and the impact on patients and other members of the health care team	
Milestones	Examples Control of the Control of t
Level 1 Responds promptly to instructions,	Responds promptly to reminders from program administrator to complete clinical and
requests, or reminders to complete tasks and	educational work hour logs
responsibilities	Attends conferences punctually and reliably Fallows we are attending instructions for account and account account and account account account account and account account account account and account accoun
	Follows up on attending instructions for case management
Laval O Takes assuranting and marfamas tooks	Submits additional tissue sections as explicitly requested by the attending
Level 2 Takes ownership and performs tasks	Completes cases in a timely manner, with attention to detail, including reporting of all
and responsibilities in a timely manner with	immunohistochemical stains and other ancillary studies
attention to detail	Maintains awareness of case list or patient load for the day
	Researches patient histories before case sign-out
	Proactively identifies missing ancillary tests that should be added to a surgical pathology
	case
	Completes and documents administrative tasks requiring cognitive engagement (safety
Level O December 2 throations that make income at	modules, procedure review, licensing requirements)
Level 3 Recognizes situations that may impact	Notifies team members on day service about overnight call events during hand-off
own ability to complete tasks and responsibilities	Notifies attending of multiple competing demands on-call
in a timely manner and describes the impact on	Appropriately triages competing tasks Asks for a sistence from the providents on forwith treams and a sistence are forwards.
team	Asks for assistance from other residents or faculty members Parisana Consultance and partializated developes a locarity plant to address.
	Reviews Case Logs, evaluations, and portfolio and develops a learning plan to address
I amal A Auticia de a condinta a anciente de attanta a	gaps/weaknesses in knowledge, case exposure, and skills
Level 4 Anticipates and intervenes in situations	Advises residents how to manage their time in completing patient care tasks
that may impact others' ability to complete tasks	Escalates problems to program director in appropriate circumstances
and responsibilities in a timely manner	a Implementa tachnology to provent michandled an asimone
Level 5 Takes ownership of system outcomes,	Implements technology to prevent mishandled specimens Cate up a meeting with the lead technologist to streamline a reflex tecting algorithm and
and implements new strategies when necessary	Sets up a meeting with the lead technologist to streamline a reflex testing algorithm and follows through with a system based solution.
Assessment Models or Tools	follows through with a system-based solution
Assessment woders of Tools	Compliance with deadlines and timelines Direct observation
	Mentor and program director observations
	Multisource global evaluations, including from program administrator
	Quality metrics of turnaround time on cases
	Self-evaluations and reflective tools
	Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	• Officiation
Curriculant Mapping	

Notes or Resources	Code of conduct from fellow/resident institutional manual
	Expectations of residency program regarding accountability and professionalism

Professionalism 3: Self-Awareness and Help-Seeking (Track A, B, and C)	
Overall Intent: To identify, use, manage, improve, and seek help for personal and professional well-being for self and others	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Recognizes limitations in the knowledge/skills/ behaviors of self or team, with supervision	Accepts feedback and responds to it constructively
Recognizes status of personal and professional well-being, with supervision	Acknowledges signs of burnout in self when counseled by program director or mentor
Level 2 Independently recognizes limitations in the knowledge/skills/ behaviors of self or team and seeks help when needed	Identifies possible sources of personal stress or lack of clinical knowledge and independently seeks help
Independently recognizes status of personal and professional well-being and seeks help when needed	Develops a list of top five goals and examines how these goals align with current personal and professional activities
Level 3 Proposes and implements a plan to remediate or improve the knowledge/ skills/behaviors of self or team, with supervision	 Initiates or organizes a special slide session Arranges for a lecture on a pathology management topic
Proposes and implements a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being, with supervision	With supervision, develops a personal learning or action plan to address gaps in knowledge or stress and burnout for self or team
Level 4 Independently develops and implements a plan to remediate or improve the knowledge/skills/ behaviors of self or team	Creates a new lecture series or educational resource in which content is provided by guest speakers
Independently develops and implements a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being	Independently develops personal learning or action plans for continued personal and professional growth, and limits stress and burnout for self or team
Level 5 Serves as a resource or consultant for developing a plan to remediate or improve the knowledge/ skills/behaviors	Mentors patients and colleagues in self-awareness and establishes plans to limit stress and burnout
Coaches others when responses or limitations in knowledge/skills do not meet professional expectations	Leads a wellness program that benefits multiple members of the department

Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Group interview or discussions for team activities Individual interview Institutional online training modules Mentor and program director observations Participation in institutional well-being programs
Curriculum Mapping	Self-assessment and personal learning plan
Notes or Resources	 This subcompetency is not intended to evaluate a fellow's well-being, but to ensure each fellow has the fundamental knowledge of factors that impact well-being, the mechanisms by which those factors impact well-being, and available resources and tools to improve well-being. ACGME. "Well-Being Tools and Resources." https://dl.acgme.org/pages/well-being-tools-resources. Accessed 2022. Conran RM, Powell SZ, Domen RE, et al. Development of professionalism in graduate medical education: a case-based educational approach from the College of American Pathologists' Graduate Medical Education Committee. <i>Acad Pathol</i>. 2018;5:2374289518773493. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6039899/. 2020. Hicks PJ, Schumacher D, Guralnick S, Carraccio C, Burke AE. Domain of competence: personal and professional development. <i>Acad Pediatr</i>. 2014;14(2 Suppl):S80-97. https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S1876-2859(13)00332-X. 2020. Joseph L, Shaw PF, Smoller BR. Perceptions of stress among pathology residents: survey results and some strategies to reduce them. <i>Am J Clin Pathol</i>. 2007;128(6):911-919. https://academic.oup.com/ajcp/article/128/6/911/1764982. 2020. Local resources, including Employee Assistance Program

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 1: Patient- and Family-Centered Communication (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To deliberately use language and behaviors to form constructive relationships with patients, to identify communication		
barriers including self-reflection on personal biases, and minimize them in the doctor-patient relationships; organize and lead communication		
around shared decision making Milestones	Examples	
Level 1 Uses language and nonverbal behavior to demonstrate respect and establish rapport	 Self-monitors and controls tone, non-verbal responses, and language and asks questions to invite patient/family participation Avoids medical jargon when talking to patients, makes sure communication is at the appropriate level 	
Identifies common barriers to effective communication (e.g., language, disability) while accurately communicating own role within the health care system	 Accurately communicates role in the health care system to patients/families Identifies common communication barriers in patient care 	
Level 2 Establishes a relationship in straightforward encounters using active listening and clear language	Establishes a professional relationship with patients/families, with active listening	
Identifies complex barriers to effective communication (e.g., health literacy, cultural)	 In a real or simulated patient encounter, seeks to understand the patient's level of understanding of medical language Meets with blood donors who have been deferred from donation and explains the patient or donor safety issue (C) 	
Level 3 Sensitively and compassionately delivers medical information, with supervision	 Demonstrates respect for a Jehovah's Witness who does not want a transfusion with thorough explanation of the risks and alternatives (C) Acknowledges uncertainty in daily tasks 	
When prompted, reflects on personal biases while attempting to minimize communication barriers	Recognizes and acknowledges personal bias about a layperson's medical knowledge when pointed out by attending	
Level 4 Independently, sensitively, and compassionately delivers medical information and acknowledges uncertainty and conflict	Is an active member of patient care team in discussion with family regarding a difficult transplant match	
Independently recognizes personal biases while attempting to proactively minimize communication barriers	 Develops a plan for communicating biopsy findings in face of patient or family anger (A/B) Checks personal biases and works to overcome them 	

Level 5 Mentors others in the sensitive and compassionate delivery of medical information	Participates in communication of biopsy findings in face of patient or family anger (A/B)
Models self-awareness while teaching a contextual approach to minimize communication barriers	Gives an active learning session on compassionate communication skills with reference to personal experiences
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Kalamazoo Essential Elements Communication Checklist (Adapted) Self-assessment including self-reflection exercises Skills needed to Set the state, Elicit information, Give information, Understand the patient, and End the encounter (SEGUE) Standardized/simulated patients or structured case discussions
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Dintzis SM. Improving pathologist's communication skills. AMA J Ethics. 2016;18(8):802-808. https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/improving-pathologists-communication-skills/2016-08. 2020. Dintzis SM, Stetsenko GY, Sitlani CM, et al. Communicating pathology and laboratory errors: anatomic pathologists' and laboratory medical directors' attitudes and experiences. Am J Clin Pathol. 2011;135(5):760-765. https://academic.oup.com/ajcp/article/135/5/760/1766306. 2020. Laidlaw A, Hart J. Communication skills: an essential component of medical curricula. Part I: Assessment of clinical communication: AMEE Guide No. 51. Med Teach. 2011;33(1):6-8. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.3109/0142159X.2011.531170. 2020. Makoul G. Essential elements of communication in medical encounters: the Kalamazoo consensus statement. Acad Med. 2001;76(4):390-393. https://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/Fulltext/2001/04000/Essential Elements of Communication in Medical.21.aspx#pdf-link. 2020. Makoul G. The SEGUE Framework for teaching and assessing communication skills. Patient Educ Couns. 2001;45(1):23-34. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0738399101001367?via%3Dihub. 2020. Symons AB, Swanson A, McGuigan D, Orrange S, Akl EA. A tool for self-assessment of communication skills and professionalism in residents. BMC Med Educ. 2009;9:1. https://bmcmededuc.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6920-9-1. 2020.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 2: Interprofessional and Team Communication (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To effectively communicate with the health care team (laboratory team, resident/fellow team, faculty/resident team, interdisciplinary care team, etc.), including both inter- and intra-departmental and consultants, in both straightforward and complex situations	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Uses language that values all members of the health care team	Chooses respectful words and actions when communicating with the health care team during routine intraoperative consultation or clinical consultation Communicates respectfully with clerical and technical staff members
Describes the utility of constructive feedback	Describes key features of constructive feedback in a theoretical way
Level 2 Communicates information effectively with all health care team members	Verifies understanding of communications by obtaining readbacks of frozen section diagnoses, critical values, and/or unexpected diagnoses
Solicits feedback on performance as a member of the health care team	 Communicates clearly and concisely, in an organized and timely manner, during consultant encounters, as well as with the health care team in general Seeks feedback from the attending pathologist at sign-out, with specific reference to functioning as part of the team
Level 3 Uses active listening to adapt communication style to fit team needs	Actively listens by fully focusing on the speaker and using verbal and non-verbal cues (eye contact, posture, reflection, questioning, summarizing)
Integrates feedback from team members to improve communication	 Raises concerns or provides opinions and feedback to others on the team Respectfully provides feedback to more junior members of the medical team to improve or reinforce knowledge, skills, and attitudes, when appropriate
Level 4 Coordinates recommendations from different members of the health care team to optimize patient care	Offers suggestions to negotiate or resolve conflicts among health care team members; raises concerns or provides opinions and feedback, when needed, to superiors on the team
Communicates feedback and constructive criticism to superiors	 Speaks with attending pathologist to pass on a disagreement arising from tumor board Adapts communication strategies to handle complex situations
Level 5 Models flexible communication strategies that value input from all health care team members, resolving conflict when needed	 Communicates with all health care team members, resolves conflicts, and provides feedback in challenging situations Remains composed and nonconfrontational during difficult conversations about patient safety incidents
Facilitates regular health care team-based feedback in complex situations	 Organizes regular team meetings to discuss and resolve conflicting points of view on case management Facilitates discussions around use of rare/limited resources
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation

Curriculum Mapping	 Global assessment Multi-source assessment Record or chart review for professionalism and accuracy in written communications Simulated encounters
Notes or Resources	 Brissette MD, Johnson K, Raciti PM, et al. Perceptions of unprofessional attitudes and behaviors: implications for faculty role modeling and teaching professionalism during pathology residency. <i>Arch Pathol Lab Med</i>. 2017;141:1394-1401. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0477-CP. 2020. Conran RM, Powell SZ, Domen RE, et al. Development of professionalism in graduate medical education: a case-based educational approach from the College of American Pathologists' Graduate Medical Education Committee. 2018;5: 2374289518773493. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6039899/. 2020. Green M, Parrott T, Cook G., Improving your communication skills. <i>BMJ</i>. 2012;344:e357. https://www.bmj.com/content/344/bmj.e357. 2020. Henry SG, Holmboe ES, Frankel RM. Evidence-based competencies for improving communication skills in graduate medical education: a review with suggestions for implementation. <i>Med Teach</i>. 2013;35(5):395-403. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.3109/0142159X.2013.769677. 2020. Nakhleh RE, Myers JL, Allen TC, et al. Consensus statement on effective communication of urgent diagnoses and significant, unexpected diagnoses in surgical pathology and cytopathology from the College of American Pathologists and Association of Directors of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology. <i>Arch Pathol Lab Med</i>. 2012;136(2):148-154. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2011-0400-SA?url_ver=Z39.88-2003𝔯_id=ori:rid:crossref.org𝔯_dat=cr_pub%3dpubmed. 2020. Roth CG, Eldin KW, Padmanabhan V, Freidman EM. Twelve tips for the introduction of emotional intelligence in medical education. <i>Med Teach</i>. 2019;41(7):1-4. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0142159X.2018.1481499. 2020.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills 3: Communication within Health Care Systems (Track A, B, and C) Overall Intent: To effectively communicate to a variety of audiences using appropriate/approved methods in order to protect patient	
information Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Safeguards patient personal health information by communicating through appropriate means as required by institutional policy (e.g., patient safety reports, cell phone/pager usage)	Identifies when it is acceptable to include protected health information (PHI) in various forms of communication Refrains from using personal email or texting to transmit patient health information
Identifies institutional and departmental structure for communication of issues	Identifies institutional and departmental hierarchy for reporting concerns about communication of PHI
Level 2 Selects forms of communication based on context and urgency of the situation	 Identifies method for sharing results needing urgent attention and appropriately documents communications Recognizes when a communication breakdown has happened and respectfully brings the breakdown to the attention of the chief resident/fellow or faculty member
Respectfully communicates concerns about the system	Reports a patient safety event Identifies barriers to secure communication
Level 3 Communicates while ensuring security of personal health information, with supervision	Uses appropriate method when sharing results needing urgent attention
Uses institutional structure to effectively communicate clear and constructive suggestions to improve the system	 Communicates opportunities for improvement in the LIS/EHR interface Appropriately escalates concerns or opportunities for improvement in communication
Level 4 Independently communicates while ensuring security of personal health information	Independently discusses breakdowns in communication with colleague in order to prevent recurrence
Initiates conversations on difficult subjects with appropriate stakeholders to improve the system	 Participates in task force to update policy to improve house staff hand-offs Improves methods for communicating system-wide call schedules, conference scheduling, etc.
Level 5 Guides departmental or institutional communication around policies and procedures regarding the security of personal health information	Leads a task force to update policy to improve house staff hand-offs

Facilitates dialogue regarding systems issues among larger community stakeholders (e.g., institution, health care system, field)	Works with information systems to implement improvements in the LIS/EHR interface
Assessment Models or Tools	Chart review for documented communications
	 Conferences/presentations of QI project Direct observation
	360-degree evaluation of verbal communications
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Bierman JA, Hufmeyer KK, Liss DT, Weaver AC, Heiman HL. Promoting responsible electronic documentation: validity evidence for a checklist to assess progress notes in the electronic health record. <i>Teach Learn Med.</i> 2017;29(4):420-432. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10401334.2017.1303385. 2020. Haig KM, Sutton S, Whittington J. SBAR: a shared mental model for improving communication between clinicians. <i>Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf.</i> 2006;32(3):167-175. https://www.jointcommissionjournal.com/article/S1553-7250(06)32022-3/fulltext. 2020.
	• Starmer AJ, et al. I-pass, a mnemonic to standardize verbal handoffs. <i>Pediatrics</i> . 2012;129(2):201-204.
	https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/129/2/201?sso=1&sso_redirect_count=1&nf
	status=401&nftoken=00000000-0000-0000-
	000000000008nfstatusdescription=ERROR%3a+No+local+token. 2020.

To help programs transition to the new version of the Milestones, the original Milestones 1.0 have been mapped to the new Milestones 2.0. Below it is indicated where the subcompetencies are similar between versions. These are not exact matches but include some of the same elements. Not all subcompetencies map between versions. Inclusion or exclusion of any subcompetency does not change the educational value or impact on curriculum or assessment.

Milestones 1.0	Milestones 2.0
PC1A: Patient Care and Procedural Skills	PC1: Reporting
	PC2: Examination
	PC4: Microscopic Examination and Ancillary Testing for
	Diagnosis
PC1B: Patient Care and Procedural Skills	PC1: Reporting
	PC2: Examination
	PC4: Microscopic Examination and Ancillary Testing for
	Diagnosis
PC1C: Patient Care and Procedural Skills	PC1: Reporting
	PC5: Interpretation
MK1A: Demonstrates knowledge of established and evolving	MK1: Clinical Reasoning
biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral	MK2: Knowledge of Established and Evolving Biomedical,
sciences, and applies it to patient care	Clinical, Epidemiological, and Social-Behavioral Sciences
MK1B: Demonstrates knowledge of established and evolving	MK1: Clinical Reasoning
biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral	MK2: Knowledge of Established and Evolving Biomedical,
sciences, and applies it to patient care	Clinical, Epidemiological, and Social-Behavioral Sciences
MK1C: Demonstrates knowledge of established and evolving	MK1: Clinical Reasoning
biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral	MK2: Knowledge of Established and Evolving Biomedical,
sciences, and applies it to patient care	Clinical, Epidemiological, and Social-Behavioral Sciences
MK2AB: Procedure: Intra-operative consultation/frozen sections	PC3: Intra-Operative Consultation, including Frozen Section
SBP1: Regulatory	SBP4: Accreditation, Compliance, and Quality
SBP2: Health Care Teams	SBP2: Systems Navigation for Patient-Centered Care
	ICS2: Interprofessional and Team Communication
SBP3: Lab Management: Resource Utilization (personnel and	SBP 3: Physician Role in Health Care System
finance)	SBP5: Utilization
PBLI1: Evidence-based Utilization	PBLI1: Evidence-Based Practice and Scholarship
	SBP5: Utilization
PBLI2: Process Improvement and Patient Safety	SBP1: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement (QI)
PBLI3: Fellows' Scholarly Activity	PBLI1: Evidence-Based Practice and Scholarship
PBLI4A: Laboratory Management	No match
PBLI4B: Laboratory Management	No match

PBLI4C: Laboratory Management	No match
PROF1: Receives and provides feedback	PBLI2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal
	Growth
PROF2: Demonstrates accountability, honesty, and integrity	PROF1: Professional Behavior and Ethical Principles PROF2:
	Accountability and Conscientiousness
	PROF3: Self-Awareness and Help Seeking
PROF3: Demonstrates cultural competency	SBP2: Systems Navigation for Patient-Centered Care
	ICS1: Patient and Family-Centered Communication
ICS1: Communicates with health care providers, families, and	ICS1: Patient and Family-Centered Communication
patients	ICS2: Interprofessional and Team Communication
ICS2: Personnel Management and Conflict Resolution	ICS2: Interprofessional and Team Communication
No match	ICS3: Communication within Health Care Systems

Available Milestones Resources

Milestones 2.0: Assessment, Implementation, and Clinical Competency Committees Supplement, 2021 - https://meridian.allenpress.com/jgme/issue/13/2s

Milestones Guidebooks: https://www.acgme.org/milestones/resources/

- Assessment Guidebook
- Clinical Competency Committee Guidebook
- Clinical Competency Committee Guidebook Executive Summaries
- Implementation Guidebook
- Milestones Guidebook

Milestones Guidebook for Residents and Fellows: https://www.acgme.org/residents-and-fellows/ the acgme-for-residents-and-fellows/

- Milestones Guidebook for Residents and Fellows
- Milestones Guidebook for Residents and Fellows Presentation
- Milestones 2.0 Guide Sheet for Residents and Fellows

Milestones Research and Reports: https://www.acgme.org/milestones/research/

- Milestones National Report, updated each fall
- Milestones Predictive Probability Report, updated each fall
- Milestones Bibliography, updated twice each year

Developing Faculty Competencies in Assessment courses - https://www.acgme.org/meetings-and-educational-activities/courses-and-workshops/developing-faculty-competencies-in-assessment/

Assessment Tool: Direct Observation of Clinical Care (DOCC) - https://dl.acgme.org/pages/assessment

Assessment Tool: Teamwork Effectiveness Assessment Module (TEAM) - https://team.acgme.org/

Improving Assessment Using Direct Observation Toolkit - https://dl.acgme.org/pages/acgme-faculty-development-toolkit-improving-assessment-using-direct-observation

Remediation Toolkit - https://dl.acgme.org/courses/acgme-remediation-toolkit

Learn at ACGME has several courses on Assessment and Milestones - https://dl.acgme.org/