

# NUHS PATHOLOGY RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

Surgical pathology has played and will continue to play an increasingly critical role in modern health care. However, the demands and nature of the pathology workload have also grown increasingly complex. As practising pathologists, we feel a constant need to update and keep abreast of new discoveries and requirements that are modifying our practice and thinking. To prepare for these challenges, it is critically important that the aspiring pathology trainee receives comprehensive training in an environment that combines a long tradition of academic teaching, mentorship and active research.

At the pathology department of NUHS, we have a dedicated team of highly experienced pathologists and scientists who are very keen to mentor and train residents to ensure that they are prepared for the challenges ahead. The department comprises Histopathology, Cytopathology, Electron microscopy and Diagnostic molecular pathology services. There is also close affiliation with other state of the art research laboratories (e.g. NUS and ASTAR), which provides ample opportunities for research collaboration.

There is a comprehensive range of surgical pathology and cytology cases that allow exposure to a very broad range of clinical material from common routine specimens to rare and unusual diseases and tumors. Furthermore, the faculty have subspecialty interests that give residents the opportunity to undergo in depth training in each discipline. The department also has a vibrant and dynamic integrated molecular diagnostic service that allows residents to gain training in molecular pathology, a rare opportunity, not readily available in most institutions. This morpho-molecular diagnostic approach increasingly forms the backbone of how we diagnose and treat cancer in modern medicine.

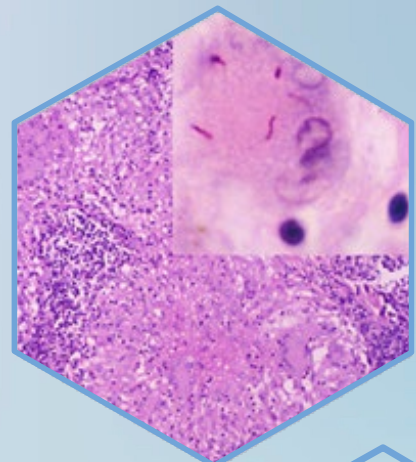
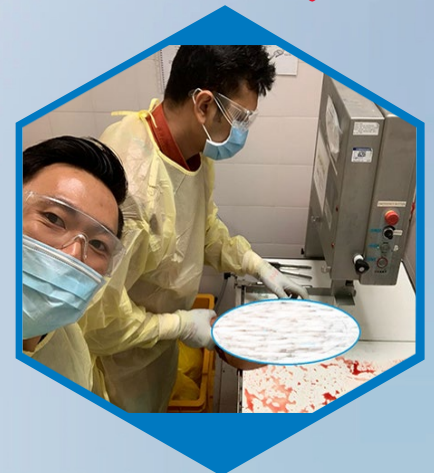
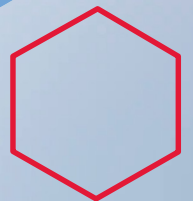
Finally, our faculty provide diverse role models for residents and has a proven track record for the highest quality teaching.

## Outstanding Features

- Strong teaching culture with an outstanding teaching faculty. Most of our pathologists are academic staff with extensive experience in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.
- Many of our physicians are leading pathologists and active researchers in their subspecialties.
- Excellent range and quantity of cases to ensure exposure to a wide variety of disease entities.
- Excellent training and teaching facilities for our residents.
- High physician to resident ratio to ensure highly personalised teaching, attention and care.
- Our residents have an excellent track record with high passing rates for the pathology exams.
- Access and exposure to research laboratories and facilities for those contemplating a more research oriented career path.
- Access and exposure to diagnostic molecular pathology training. Molecular pathology plays an increasingly critical role in the diagnosis and treatment of many tumors.



Dr Thomas Thamboo  
Programme Director



## Programme Structure

The aim of the training schedule is to provide an organised and structured educational experience for qualified doctors to acquire the basic competence of a pathologist. Pathology residents are required to fulfill a training period of at least five years.

The first three years of training are termed as R1, R2 and R3. Training during this period consists of 'Core Pathology Training' (as defined by the RAC). This also prepares a resident for the Pathology Intermediate Exam.

The following two years of training are termed as R4 and R5 (senior residency training). These years are a period of subspecialty training (e.g. renal pathology, skin pathology) and consolidated general pathology training. This prepares a resident for the exit exam in R5, which will be FRCPath or FRCPA Part II exam.

During the course of training, residents will be required to rotate to other ACGME-I accredited participating institutions to complete or complement the training not available in the sponsoring institution. Pathology-related research and scholarly activities are strongly encouraged throughout the residency training.

## Sample Block Rotation

Residency Year	Rotation
R1	Core Pathology Training
R2	Core Pathology Training
R3	Core Pathology Training
Pathology Intermediate Exam	
R4	Senior Residency Training in General Pathology
R5	Senior Residency Training in General Pathology
Exit Exam (FRCPath / FRCPA Part II)	

