

# General Pathology Clinical Privileges

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective from \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Initial privileges (initial appointment)       Renewal of privileges (reappointment)

All new applicants must meet the following requirements as approved by the governing body, effective: June 4, 2013.

**Applicant:** Check the "Requested" box for each privilege requested. Applicants are responsible for producing required documentation for a proper evaluation of current skill, current clinical activity, and other qualifications and for resolving any doubts related to qualifications for requested privileges. Please provide this supporting information separately.

**[Department/Program Head or Leaders/ Chief]:** Check the appropriate box for recommendation on the last page of this form and include your recommendation for any required evaluation. If recommended with conditions or not recommended, provide the condition or explanation on the last page of this form.

Current experience is an estimate of the level of activity below which a collegial discussion about support should be triggered. It is not a disqualifier. This discussion should be guided not only by the expectations and standards outlined in the dictionary but also by the risks inherent in the privilege being discussed and by similar activities that contribute to the skill under consideration. This is an opportunity to reflect with a respected colleague on one's professional practice and to deliberately plan an approach to skills maintenance.

## Other requirements

- Note that privileges granted may only be exercised at the site(s) and/or setting(s) that have sufficient space, equipment, staffing, and other resources required to support the privilege.
- This document is focused on defining qualifications related to competency to exercise clinical privileges. The applicant must also adhere to any additional organizational, regulatory, or accreditation requirements that the organization is obligated to meet.

**Note:** The dictionary will be reviewed over time to ensure it is reflective of current practices, procedures and technologies.

**Grandparenting:** Physicians holding privileges prior to implementation of the dictionary will continue to hold those privileges as long as they meet currency and quality requirements.



# General Pathology Clinical Privileges

**Definition:** A General Pathologist is a specialist who is trained in diagnosis and in laboratory management, incorporating and integrating all aspects of laboratory methodology, playing a key role in quality assurance and the introduction of emerging technologies. This includes providing consultation to medical colleagues using morphologic techniques such as histopathology, cytology, autopsy, forensics and clinical laboratory methods, namely biochemistry, laboratory hematology, blood transfusion and microbiology. General Pathology is distinct because the training is divided between Anatomical Pathology and clinical laboratory medicine. General Pathologists are trained to practice in a variety of settings including large metropolitan, regional, and community hospitals, and may play a role in teaching or research. General Pathology can also be a route for sub-specialty or diploma training.

## Qualifications for General Pathology

**Initial privileges:** To be eligible to apply for privileges in General Pathology (anatomical, clinical), the applicant should normally meet the following criteria:

Certification in General Pathology by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or be recognized as a general pathologist by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia by virtue of credentials earned in another jurisdiction that are acceptable to both the College and the Health Authority and its Affiliate(s).  
AND

**Required current experience:** Full- or part-time pathology services, reflective of the scope of privileges requested, for the past 12 months or successful completion of an RCPSC or equivalent accredited residency or clinical/research fellowship immediately following residency within the past 12 months.

**Renewal of privileges:** To be eligible to renew privileges in pathology, the applicant should meet the following criteria:

Current demonstrated skill and an adequate volume of full- or part-time experience with acceptable results, reflective of the scope of the privileges requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

A General Pathologist may be expected to have expertise in all five disciplines of laboratory medicine. Where a pathologist's experience in the past three years for a requested privilege is deemed insufficient to maintain skill, privileges will be renewed following the completion of a period of education prescribed by the regional medical

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director for laboratory medicine. Any education prescribed will be done under the auspices of a facility that is regularly engaged in the training of laboratory medicine residents, and will be signed off by the medical director/ department head of that facility/program.

**Return to practice:** Individualized evaluation at an academic training center that regularly trains General Pathology residents, with supervision of core procedures relevant to their intended scope of practice.

## Core Privileges: General Pathology

Core privileges are offered to ALL members in the discipline as long as the facility can support those activities.

### Requested

Patient diagnosis, ordering investigations, consultation, and laboratory medical oversight in the following disciplines: anatomical pathology, including surgical pathology (including intraoperative consultations), cytopathology, autopsy pathology, immunohistochemistry, and associated ancillary studies; haematopathology, medical microbiology, and medical biochemistry. May provide care to patients in the intensive care setting in conformance with unit policies. Assess, stabilize, and determine the disposition of patients with emergent conditions consistent with medical staff policy regarding emergency and consultative call services. The core privileges in this specialty include the procedures on the attached procedures list and such other procedures that are extensions of the same techniques and skills.

## Core Procedures List

This is not intended to be an all-encompassing procedures list. It defines the types of activities/procedures/privileges that the majority of practitioners in this specialty at this organization would competently perform, and inherent activities/procedures/privileges requiring similar skill sets and techniques.

**To the applicant:** If there is a procedure you wish to NOT perform, then please type into the *Comments* field.

## General Anatomical Pathology

- Interpretation and reporting of cytology specimens
- Interpretation and reporting of surgical pathology

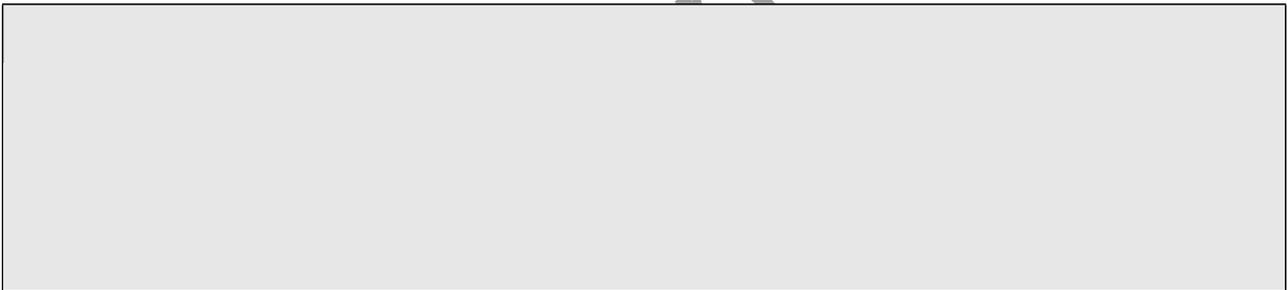


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- Autopsy, including forensic autopsy
- Interpretation and reporting of immunohistochemistry
- Medical oversight of an anatomical pathology laboratory

### General Clinical Pathology (see specific disciplines for currency requirements)

- Clinical consultation and interpretation of investigations for conditions involving transfusion, coagulation, metabolic and molecular disease
- Medical microbiology including identification of microorganisms, interpreting and reporting antibiotic susceptibility
- Interpret and report blood and marrow specimens
- Interpret and report serum protein electrophoresis
- Bone marrow biopsy procedures
- Performance of fine needle aspiration
- Apply laboratory techniques of medical biochemistry for diagnosis and management of disease for patients of all ages with a variety of metabolic disorders and biochemical abnormalities
- Medical oversight of a clinical pathology lab



### Non-core Privilege: Examination of human skeletal remains

Requested

**Initial privileges:** Requires completion of a recognized postgraduate fellowship in forensic pathology in Canada or the US,

OR

Other recognized experience or training in human skeletal remains, suitability to be assessed by the Regional Medical Lab Director

### Non-core Privilege: Examination for suspicious infant death

Requested

## General Pathology Clinical Privileges

**Initial privileges:** Requires completion of a recognized postgraduate fellowship in pediatric or forensic pathology in Canada or the US

OR

Other recognized experience in infant autopsy pathology, suitability to be assessed by the Regional Medical Lab Director



### **Context specific privileges: Administration of procedural sedation**

**Requested**

See "Hospital Policy for Sedation and Analgesia by Non-anesthesiologists."

For Reference

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## Process for requesting privileges not included in the dictionary

Where a member of the medical staff requests a privilege not included in the core, non-core or context specific privileges for a discipline, the following process will be followed.

1. The practitioner will request a **Change Request Form** from the Medical Affairs Office. This will be submitted to the head of department or chief of staff as part of the electronic application process
2. The practitioner will complete the privileges section of the **Change Request Form** and submit with the following information; the privilege requested, the location within the facility where the privilege would be exercised, and the relevant training and experience held by the practitioner in this area.
3. The department head or chief of staff, in consultation with the senior medical administrator and medical administrator responsible for the facility, will determine if the requested privilege can be supported at that site.
4. Where it is deemed appropriate, the practitioner, the department head or chief of staff and the senior medical administrator will agree on any additional training required, and a minimum level of activity required to maintain the privilege. The specific minimum number requirement indicating the level of experience needed to demonstrate skill to obtain clinical privileges for the requested procedure must be evidence-based. Where no supporting literature exists for a specific number, the criteria are established by the consensus of a multidisciplinary group of practitioners who do not have self-interest in creating an artificially high volume requirement.
5. Any additional training will be done in a facility that normally trains practitioners in this activity. Exceptions may be granted in circumstances where all that is required is training by a member of the medical staff who holds the privilege in question.
6. On satisfactory completion of training, the department head or chief of staff may recommend to the governing body through the medical advisory committee that the privilege be granted.

The privileging dictionaries on this site ([bcmqi.ca](http://bcmqi.ca)) are the official versions. They will be reviewed beginning in 2016. In the meantime if you have any questions or comments please contact your medical administration office or the BC MQI Office by completing the [Provincial Privileging Dictionary Feedback form](#).

## General Pathology Clinical Privileges

I have requested only those privileges for which by education, training, current experience, and demonstrated performance I am qualified to perform and for which I wish to exercise at the facility I am applying, and I understand that:

- a. In exercising any clinical privileges granted, I am constrained by hospital and medical staff policies and rules applicable generally and any applicable to the particular situation.
- b. Any restriction on the clinical privileges granted to me is waived in an emergency situation, and in such situation my actions are governed by the applicable section of the medical staff bylaws or related documents.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have reviewed the requested clinical privileges and supporting documentation for the above-named applicant and:

- Recommend all requested privileges
- Recommend privileges with the following conditions/modifications:
- Do not recommend the following requested privileges:

Privilege Condition/modification/explanation

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Department / Division / Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Medical Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_