Anatomical Pathology

REVIEW PANEL COMPOSITION

The panel was composed of two co-chairs with expertise in the provincial privileging dictionaries and 8 subject matter experts, who work across 7 of the province’s health authorities with representation of the Doctors of BC.

RECORD OF REVIEW PANEL DECISIONS AND CRITERIA IDENTIFIED

Below are decisions made by the review panel and/or criteria identified by the panel to guide discussion of clinical practice and standards.

1. **Use training requirements to define current experience**
   The panel defines current experience by specifying training requirements associated to each core and non-core privilege. The training requirements replace the procedure numbers that previously defined current experience.

2. **Define Molecular Pathology**
   The panel agreed to accept both standardized definitions for core and non-core Molecular Pathology as recommended by a sub-committee of subject-matter experts.

3. **No distinction for pediatric anatomical pathology**
   The decision was made to remove the certification distinction for pediatric anatomic pathology and to specify that Anatomical Pathologists seeking noncore privileges in pediatrics at BC Children’s Hospital are required to have a fellowship and American Certification as a condition of employment. There is no Canadian certification at this time.

4. **Pediatric pathology fellowship is the requirement for perinatal autopsy and apparently natural infant or child death**
   The panel agreed that a pediatric pathology fellowship is the appropriate training for perinatal autopsy and apparently natural infant or child death. Forensic pathology is not required to provide this service.
## Core Privileges

**Decision / Revision:** Define autopsy pathology

**Engagement Method:** Panel discussion and forensic pathologist consultation

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<tr>
<td>• Not Applicable</td>
<td>C1 Define autopsy pathology according to Anatomical Pathology scope of practice</td>
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*Autopsy pathology is limited to performance of autopsies on individuals aged 14 or older, and excludes:

- All homicides and suspicious deaths
- All deaths in custody, or police action-related deaths
- Cases with identification issues
- Mass fatalities
- Etc. Note—for autopsy pathology that is outside of the provider’s normal scope of practice, seek appropriate subspecialty advice.

## Non-core Privileges

**Decision / Revision:** Molecular Pathology definition has been defined by a sub panel

**Engagement Method:** Subpanel recommendation and panel discussion

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<tr>
<td>The initial version did not have a definition for molecular pathology and called out one specific technique which caused confusion.</td>
<td>C2 Definition and criteria developed by a sub-panel consisted of experts in molecular pathology, cytogenetics and molecular genetics. The panel slightly revised the definition to align with their scope of practice</td>
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- **Non-core privileges:** Molecular Pathology including FISH

- **Non-core privileges:** Molecular Pathology Definition:
  Interpretation, reporting, documentation and oversight of genetic and genomic methods and findings in the practice of pathology
Decision / Revision: New non-core privileges - The non-core privileges reflect the pathology scope of practice.

Engagement Method: Sub-panel recommendation and panel discussion

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<td>C3 Definition and criteria developed by a sub-panel consisted of experts in molecular pathology, cytogenetics and molecular genetics. The panel slightly revised the definition to align with their scope of practice</td>
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| Non-core privileges: Cytogenetics |
| Non-core privileges: Molecular Genetics |

Decision / Revision: Include a context specific statement to prompt collaborative practice between forensic and pediatric pathologists

Engagement Method: Subpanel recommendation and panel discussion

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<td>C4 Panel members was in agreement to add a context specific statement to the following non-core privileges:</td>
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| Non-core Privileges: Examination for criminally suspicious infant death |
| Non-core Privileges: Examination for perinatal autopsy and apparently natural infant or child death (less than 14 years of age) |

*Context specific statement:*
The overlap between suspicious and apparently natural death in a child under the age of 14 years may not be clear-cut and may require collaborative practice between forensic and pediatric pathologists.
Anatomical 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: November 9, 2017

Instructions:

Applicant: Check the “Requested” box for each privilege requested. Applicants are responsible for producing required documentation to allow 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 by uploading the appropriate documents.

Medical/Clinical leaders: 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: Current experience thresholds suggested in this document were developed by practitioners in the field, and are not intended as a barrier to practice or to service delivery. They are not intended as rigid cutoffs, below which clinical privileges must be restricted or removed. Instead, medical/clinical leaders are encouraged to initiate discussions with those practitioners who are close to or below the thresholds, to ensure that mechanisms are in place to ensure adequate practitioner experience and patient outcomes.

Other requirements: Note that even if applicants meet skill or experience requirements, each site will determine if the requested privilege can be supported at that site. 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 training and current experience to exercise clinical privileges. The applicant must also adhere to any additional organizational, regulatory, or accreditation requirements that the organization is obligated to meet.

Context: The care of patients presenting with complex problems or uncommon diseases requires access to multidisciplinary groups, experienced teams and institutions with the necessary subspecialties and infrastructure for appropriate care.

Grandparenting: Practitioners holding privileges prior to implementation of the dictionary will continue to hold those privileges as long as they meet current experience and quality requirements.
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

Continuous Professional Development (CPD): Where suggested in this document, CPD requirements reflect those professional development activities which are eligible for:

1. credit under the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada’s (RCPSC’s) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program;
2. the College of Family Physicians of Canada Mainpro+;
3. those professional development activities held in foreign jurisdictions which would be eligible under the MOC/Mainpro program if held in Canada; or
4. equivalent CPD or Quality Assurance activities for other practitioners.

Planned vs. Unplanned (Emergency) Care: The scope of privileges granted to any individual practitioner is based on considerations of patient care under “normal circumstances.” In the setting of risk to life or limb, the rules of privilege are not meant to constrain practitioners from acting in the best interest of a patient.

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

Core privilege: Types of activities a recent graduate of the discipline can reasonably be expected to perform at a specific facility. Under core privileges in this dictionary, if there is a procedure you wish to NOT perform please type into the Comments field.

Non-core privilege: Types of activities that require further training, experience and demonstrated skill. Non-core privileges are requested in addition to requesting core. Individuals requesting these privileges should meet the specific threshold criteria associated to such non-core privileges.

Restricted procedures: Some dictionaries have procedures identified by the Ministry of Health as [DESIGNATED A RESTRICTED SERVICE BY THE MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION]. Privileges identified as restricted procedures may be flagged in this document. Where it appears, the restricted procedures flag is for administrative tracking only, and has no impact on clinical content.
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

Definition

Anatomical Pathology is that branch of laboratory medicine concerned with the study of the morphologic aspects of disease. It includes the subdomains of cytopathology, gynecological pathology, dermatopathology, gastrointestinal pathology, cardiovascular pathology, respiratory pathology, musculoskeletal pathology, renal pathology, genito-urinary pathology, endocrine pathology, ophthalmic pathology, head and neck pathology, neuropathology, pediatric pathology, forensic pathology, and certain laboratory methods such as immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, in-situ hybridization, flow cytometry, molecular pathology, electron microscopy.

Qualifications for Anatomical Pathology

Initial privileges: To be eligible to apply for privileges in Anatomical Pathology, the applicant should meet the following criteria:

Certification in Anatomical Pathology by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or be recognized as an Anatomical 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

Recommended current experience: Full- and/or part-time clinical Anatomical Pathology services, reflective of the scope of privileges requested, for the past 12 months or successful completion of a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada residency in anatomical pathology (or equivalent) or clinical/research fellowship immediately following residency within the past 12 months.

Renewal of privileges: To be eligible to renew privileges in Anatomical 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.

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

Core privileges: Anatomical Pathology

Core privileges are offered to ALL members in the discipline as long as the facility can

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Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

support those activities.

- **Requested**
  Patient diagnosis, ordering, consultation, and laboratory medical direction in the following disciplines: surgical pathology (including intraoperative consultations), cytopathology, autopsy pathology*, immunohistochemistry, and associated ancillary studies. 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. Medical oversight of an anatomical pathology laboratory

*Autopsy pathology is limited to performance of autopsies on individuals aged 14 or older, and excludes:

- All homicides and suspicious deaths
- All deaths in custody, or police action-related deaths
- Cases with identification issues
- Mass fatalities
- Etc. Note—for autopsy pathology that is outside of the provider’s normal scope of practice, seek appropriate subspecialty advice.

**Core privileges: Molecular Pathology**

- **Requested**
  Use of genetic and genomic reports and findings in the practice of pathology

**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:** Select the following procedure(s) you wish to perform.

**Core privileges: Fine Needle Aspiration**

- **Requested**
  Performance of fine needle aspiration
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

Non-core privileges (see specific criteria)
- Are permits for activities that require further training, experience and demonstrated skill.
- Are requested individually in addition to requesting the core.
- Each individual requesting non-core privileges should meet the specific threshold criteria as outlined.

Non-core privileges: Examination of human skeletal remains

- Requested

Initial privileges: Requires completion of a recognized postgraduate fellowship in forensic pathology,

OR

Other recognized experience or training in human skeletal remains, suitability to be assessed by the appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority

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 postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

Renewal of privileges: To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

Non-core privileges: Examination for criminally suspicious infant death

- Requested

The overlap between suspicious and apparently natural death in a child under the age of 14 years may not be clear-cut and may require collaborative practice between forensic and pediatric pathologists.
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

**Initial privileges:** Requires completion of a recognized postgraduate fellowship in forensic pathology.

OR

Other recognized experience and training in forensic infant autopsy pathology, suitability to be assessed by the appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority

AND

**Required current experience:** Full- or part-time pathology services, specific to infant autopsy practice for the past 12 months or successful completion of postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

**Renewal of privileges:** To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

**Non-core privileges: Examination for perinatal autopsy and apparently natural infant or child death (less than 14 years of age)**

☐ Requested

*Note:* For autopsy pathology that is outside of the provider's normal scope of practice, seek appropriate subspecialty advice

The overlap between suspicious and apparently natural death in a child under the age of 14 years may not be clear-cut and may require collaborative practice between forensic and pediatric pathologists.

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

OR

Other recognized experience in pediatric autopsy pathology, suitability to be assessed by the
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority

AND

**Required current experience:** Full- or part-time pathology services, specific to infant/child autopsy practice for the past 12 months or successful completion of postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

**Renewal of privileges:** To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

**Non-core privileges: Flow Cytometry**

- **Requested**

**Initial privileges:** The applicant has completed training to the satisfaction of the appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority

AND

**Required current experience:** Full- or part-time pathology services, reflective of the scope of privilege requested, for the past 12 months or successful completion of postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

**Renewal of privileges:** To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

Non-core privileges: Immunofluorescence

✓ Requested

Initial privileges: The applicant has completed training to the satisfaction of the appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority

AND

Required current experience: Full- or part-time pathology services, reflective of the scope of privilege requested, for the past 12 months or successful completion of postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

Renewal of privileges: To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

Non-core privileges: Electron Microscopy

✓ Requested

Initial privileges: The applicant has completed training to the satisfaction of the appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority

AND

Required current experience: Full- or part-time pathology services, reflective of the scope of privilege requested, for the past 12 months or successful completion of postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

Renewal of privileges: To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

**Non-core privilege: Molecular Pathology**

**Definition**
Interpretation, reporting, documentation and oversight of genetic and genomic methods and findings in the practice of pathology

☑️ **Requested**

**Initial privileges:** The applicant has completed training to the satisfaction of the appropriate medical leader as per Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules within each health authority.

AND

**Required current experience:** Full- or part-time pathology services, reflective of the scope of privilege requested, for the past 12 months or successful completion of postgraduate fellowship in the past 12 months.

**Renewal of privileges:** To be eligible to renew this privilege, 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 privilege requested, (minimum of 24 weeks working in the discipline for the past 36 months) based on results of ongoing professional practice evaluation and outcomes.

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

**Non-core privileges: Cytogenetics**

**Definition**
Cytogenetics is a branch of laboratory medicine concerned with the study of chromosomes and how chromosomal anomalies relate to human disease and phenotype. (Defined by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists)

☑️ **Requested**

**Initial privileges:** The applicant has completed additional training or equivalent and is certified
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists or American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics in Cytogenetics

Non-core privileges: Molecular Genetics

Definition
Molecular genetics is a study of molecular diagnostic testing techniques used for disease diagnosis, including the identification and interpretation of molecular abnormalities, and participation in the management of patients and their families with molecular genetic disorders. (Defined by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists)

☑ Requested

Initial privileges: The applicant has completed additional training or equivalent and is certified by the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists or American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics in Molecular Genetics

Context specific privileges
- Context refers to the capacity of a facility to support an activity.

Context specific privileges: Administration of procedural sedation

☑ Requested
See “Hospital Policy for Sedation and Analgesia by Non-anesthesiologists.”
Anatomical Pathology Clinical Privileges

Additional privileges

Definition: An additional privilege is any privilege that is not included in the core, non-core, or context-specific privileges dictionary for your discipline.

Process to request privileges not included in the dictionary for your discipline

Complete this section if you wish to request a privilege that is not included in the core, non-core or context specific privileges dictionary for your discipline.

To request an additional privilege you will identify where you would like to exercise the privilege and list your relevant training and experience. Please note that additional privileges are not automatically granted, but are reviewed to determine alignment with the site capacity and to ensure training requirements are met.

Instructions

To request additional privileges—that is, privileges not included in your discipline dictionary—please provide the following information in the comments box below:

a) the privilege requested
b) the location within the facility where the privilege would be exercised, and
c) the relevant training and experience held by the practitioner in this area

Your request for additional privileges will be submitted to the appropriate medical leader to determine if the requested privilege can be supported at the specified site, and if so, which training requirements must be met.

Additional Privilege

☐ Requested  ☐ Not Requested

Comments:

Dictionary content and feedback

The privileging dictionaries on this site (bcmqi.ca) are the official versions.

Dictionary content will be updated in cycles of review and refresh, as listed at the bcmqi.ca dictionary review hub. You can provide input on a dictionary at any time, by submitting a Request for a Revision to a Privileging Dictionary form to your local medical administration or the BC MQI office.
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: ____________________________