

Graduate Diploma Certification for Pathologists' Assistant Training Programme

12-months full-time course

Programme Overview

Pathologists' Assistants (PAs) perform specific medical tasks under the supervision of a medically qualified pathologist. They perform initial examination and dissection, provide gross description of surgically removed tissues, and assist in intraoperative frozen sections.

This PA training programme uses a variety of innovative methods to enhance learning. Flipped classroom format will be used in conjunction with routine didactic/tutorials and practicums.

The programme is tailored for adult independent learning with a focus to train a group of PAs with the competency to perform gross dissection of surgical specimens.

It is currently the **first formal PA training programme** available in Singapore and is endorsed by **SingHealth Academy, College of Allied Health (CAH)**. The programme is a **12-months programme** comprising 3 months of theoretical training followed by 9 months of practical training, with nine major topics/assessment (see Curriculum Outline)

Participants are expected to take on active roles in participating in discussions and case-based problem solving. Assessments comprise formative and summative assessments including three formal examinations with one theory and two practical examinations. All the classes will be conducted during working hours.

Admission Requirements

Participants should possess a **Bachelor's degree in biological, life sciences or equivalent**. Prior work experience in Anatomic Pathology Laboratories is preferred but not essential. Shortlisted applicants will need to attend an interview.

Programme Objectives

At the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Demonstrate and apply general knowledge and theory of pathologic disease processes, as they relate to gross and microscopic anatomy, anatomic pathology techniques, laboratory procedural skills, and medical photography.
- Effectively perform surgical pathology gross examination and prosection of specimens, apply knowledge and judgment to identify and select the appropriate tissues correlated with the clinical history and general medical information available.
- Effectively communicate the findings to pathologists, fellows and residents, including preparation of final pathology reports. When necessary participants should seek appropriate supervision.
- Anticipate advances in medical knowledge and demonstrate the ability to seek out required information and updates in medical knowledge (e.g. ability to do a PubMed search and read a journal article).
- Be aware of the roles and activities of the various sub-sections within the department in order to allow effective functioning and interaction with colleagues in daily work.

Programme Director

Clinical Asst. Prof. Tay Zhi En Amos

Consultant, Department of Anatomical Pathology,
Singapore General Hospital

Clinical Asst. Prof., Duke-NUS Medical School

Programme Outline

Topics/Assessment	Learning and Teaching Methods		Hours
	Lectures	Practical	
1) Gross Human Anatomy	25	-	25
2) Basic Histology	12	-	12
3) Histology of the Systems	15	-	15
4) General Pathology	10	-	10
5) Pathology of the Systems	20	-	20
6) Molecular Pathology	1	-	1
7) Basic Grossing Techniques	5	-	5
8) Advanced Grossing Techniques	30	360	390
9) Medical Terminology, Medical Photography and Laboratory Management and Safety	10	-	10
TOTAL	128	360	488

Certification

Participants will be issued a **Graduate Diploma certification** as having successfully completed the programme upon accomplishing the following:

- 90% attendance at both didactic and practical lessons;
- Attaining a pass grade (55%) for all formal assessments. Up to three tries for an assessment will be allowed.

How do I apply?

Please complete the [application form](#) or scan the QR code accompanied by the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae;
- Copies of your educational and professional certificates;
- A letter of recommendation from your employer (if any);
- Personal Statement



Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified.

Withdrawal Policy

Any withdrawal must be conveyed to Education office, **Pathology Academic Clinical Programme** in writing. Any refund will be tabulated and conveyed to the relevant participants. Pathology ACP reserves the right to cancel the course and fully refund the amount of course fee paid to the participants should unforeseen circumstances necessitate it.

Programme Details

Commencement Date : **FY2024 (Tentatively July 2024)**

Please note that a minimum number of successful applicants is required for commencement of the PA programme.

Venue : **Classes will be held at Academia, Singapore General Hospital (20 College Road, S169856)**

Mandatory Application Fee : **\$200 per applicant (before GST)**

Training Fee : **Available upon request**

Enquiries

For course enquiries, please contact:

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Email: siti.suhailah.firdaus@sgh.com.sg

For registration enquiries, please contact:

Attention: Mr Jayaraj S/O Bala Krishnan

Email: jayaraj.bala.krishnan@sgh.com.sg

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