

In the Name of God

**Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Ministry of Health and Medical Education**  
**Deputy for Education**

**Dermatopathology**  
**Degree: Fellowship**

**Program Description**

Dermatologists encounter a variety of lesions with skin presentations such as: inflammatory skin diseases, blistering diseases, pigmented and depigmented lesions, granulomatous, cutaneous manifestations of systemic diseases and benign and malignant cutaneous tumors, appendages and soft tissue, and metastatic manifestations of tumors in other organs, etc., so they need a close cooperation with pathologists for proper diagnosis and management of patients. Hence, a curriculum was developed in 1950s in which dermatologists and pathologists worked together to effectively improve the diagnostic issues and consequently provide more accurate and comprehensive treatment for patients with skin diseases. In 1980s, we felt the need for such a curriculum more than ever, so a local curriculum was developed to train specialists in this field. In 2009, the Ministry of Health considered the development of a curriculum for a fellowship course. To this end, a committee was established with the faculty members who had passed the course of dermatopathology or were familiar with its details. The curriculum was prepared in several meetings.

**Definition & Duration of the Training Program:**

Dermatopathology fellowship is a subspecialty of dermatology and pathology, whose graduates are trained in a joint program for better and more accurate diagnosis of skin diseases, hence more accurate treatment.

**Duration of the course is 12 months.**

**Aims:**

- 1- To train knowledgeable, competent and committed specialists who are competent in diagnosing skin diseases more accurately, hence provide better treatment, and continuously improve this process.
- 2- In next 10 years, we will reach world standards regarding education in dermatopathology fellowship so that we will be among the top countries in the Middle East regarding providing high quality service provision and science production.

**Admission Requirements**

- 1-Board of Dermatology Specialty
- 2- Board of Pathology Specialty

## **Expected Competencies at the End of the Program**

### **General Competencies\***

#### **Specific Competencies and Skills**

Procedural competencies:

Preparation of pathology slides

Examining the slide with a light microscope

Immunofluorescence Preparation and study

Immunohistochemistry (IHC)

Electron microscopy (If not available, send to centers that have the equipment)

Specific staining of different tissues

PCR

Various skin lesions Smear preparation

Skin biopsy under the supervision of a dermatologist

### **Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques\***

#### **Student Assessment (Methods and Types)**

##### **A. Assessment Methods**

Written, oral and practical assessment and logbook assessment

##### **B. Periods of Assessment**

Formative and 2 times during course (Summative)

#### **Ethical Considerations\***

\*Note: The related document(s) can be found at <http://hcmep.behdasht.gov.ir/>.

## The overall structure of the course:

### A. For residents with dermatology background

Setting	Contents – tasks	Frequency	Duration (month)
Department of Dermatology	Inpatients, participation in educational, research and treatment programs set by the department	Two days a week in dermatology ward and clinic –4 other days in department of pathology	4 months
Dermatology clinic	Outpatient visit, decision making for hospitalizing patients		
Clinical pathology laboratory	Microbiology, mycology, parasitology and electronic microscope, immunofluorescence, PCR, immunohistochemistry, general pathology	15 days for each department	8 months
Laboratory and department of pathology	Examining and interpretation of pathology slides	4 days a week in department of pathology –2 other days in dermatology ward	

### B. For residents with pathology background

Setting	Contents - tasks	Frequency	Duration (month)
Laboratory and department of pathology	Examining and reporting pathology slides	Two days a week in department of pathology – 4 other days in dermatology clinic	8 months
Clinical pathology laboratory	Performing specific experiments in microbiology, mycology, immunofluorescence, immunohistochemistry and working with electron microscope		
Department of dermatology	Participation in the training rounds and other programs	15 days for each department	4 months
Dermatology clinic	Participation in clinics and follow-up activities related to the pathology studies of dermatology patients	Three days a week Dermatology department and clinic– 3 other days in department of pathology	



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