

**ACGME Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education
in Dermatopathology
Summary and Impact of Major Requirement Revisions**

Requirement #: **I.D.1.b)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only): Change from 'should' to 'must'

The program ~~should~~ must provide each fellow a designated work area, microscope, and computer with internet access. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
This has always been a Core requirement, so in an effort to maintain consistency, the Committees have incorporated "must" to highlight the importance of compliance with the requirement.
2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
Ensuring all learners have appropriate resources is critical to an accredited program in dermatopathology.
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?
Assuming programs and institutions were already in compliance, as this was a long-standing Core requirement, there should not be any additional burden to acquire resources.
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.1.c)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only): Deletion of requirement.

~~**As the intent of the one-year fellowship is to focus on the subspecialty of dermatopathology, maintenance of skills in the previously completed core residency or other aspects of dermatology or pathology beyond dermatopathology should be minimal during a one-year fellowship, and should not occur more than one half-day per week. (Detail)**~~

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
This requirement was never meant to be interpreted as independent practice in the core specialty, as outlined in Common Program Requirement IV.E., which is not permitted for dermatopathology. Requirement IV.C.1.c) was intended for educational enhancement of fellows in their primary certification specialty. The Committee recommends deleting this requirement. For a short, one-year fellowship, inclusion as

currently written could mean up to a fifth of the dermatopathology education and training is replaced, diluting the already short timeline of the program.

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
By allowing more time in the one-year fellowship to be focused on the subspecialty curriculum.
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?
N/A
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.3.a).(1)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only): Change from 'should' to 'must'

Each dermatopathology fellow ~~should~~ must examine at least 5000 dermatopathology specimens, including in-house or referred specimens in the institution's accessions file for which reports are generated. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
This has always been a Core requirement, so in an effort to maintain consistency, the Committees have incorporated "must" to highlight the importance of compliance with the requirement.
2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
Ensuring all learners have appropriate resources is critical to an accredited program in dermatopathology, which includes access to at least 5000 dermatopathology specimens.
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?
Assuming programs and institutions were already in compliance, as this was a long-standing Core requirement, there should not be any additional burden to ensure compliance/access of specimens to learners.
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.3.b)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only): Language stricken.

Fellows who are pathologists must devote 50 percent of each week, for the remaining eight months of the program to education in clinical dermatology provided by the dermatology teaching faculty. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
This deletion provides the programs more flexibility in how the 50 percent of clinical dermatology time for the remaining eight months is scheduled.
2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
N/A
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?
N/A
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.3.b).(1)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only): Proposed reduction in dermatology patients for pathology-educated learners.

Fellows who are pathologists must each examine at least ~~4000~~ 500 dermatology patients, including children and adults. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
The Committees received feedback from the community during the initial 30-day review and comment phase that this requirement was difficult to achieve with high-quality patient encounters. To have a more robust experience, the expectation is that by lowering the required number, the program will include a breadth of quality clinical experiences.
2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
The clinical experience remains essential to education. The Committees expect that the educational value of the lower required number of patient experiences will be of high quality and of relevance to dermatopathology.
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

N/A

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

No, as the required number of patient encounters has decreased.

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.3.c)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

Fellows who are dermatologists must devote 50 percent of each week, for the remaining eight months of the program, to education in anatomic pathology provided by the pathology teaching faculty. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
This deletion provides the program more flexibility in how the 50 percent of anatomic pathology time for the remaining eight months is scheduled.
2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality? **N/A**
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how? **N/A**
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.3.c).(1)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

Fellows who are dermatologists must each examine at least ~~4000~~ 500 surgical pathology specimens and ~~200~~ cytopathology representing the breadth of dermatopathology. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
The Committees received feedback from the community during the initial 30-day review and comment phase that this requirement was difficult to achieve with high-quality patient encounters. To have a more robust experience, the expectation is that by lowering the required number, the program will include a breadth of quality clinical experiences.

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
The surgical pathology experience remains essential to education. The Committees expect that the educational value of the lower required number will be of high quality and of relevance to dermatopathology.
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?
No, as the required number of patient encounters has decreased.
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A

Requirement #: **IV.C.3.e)**

Requirement Revision (significant change only): Addition of a critical component of medical knowledge required for Board certification in dermatopathology that was left out as an oversight in previous versions of the requirements.

Fellows must be exposed to molecular techniques. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:
Knowledge of molecular techniques has become critical to the practice of dermatopathology and is required for Board certification in dermatopathology.
2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?
Ensuring all learners have requisite exposure to a technique that will be a part of dermatopathology practice is critical.
3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?
N/A
4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?
Programs with accredited core pathology and dermatology programs should already have the resources required for exposure of learners.
5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?
N/A