

The Integrative Academic Advantage

The medical faculty of the Yale Pathology Labs are, for the most part, embedded in an academic environment with a rich and diverse teaching mission. Consequently, physicians and staff are involved in teaching students at the Yale Medical School in the MD and MD-PhD and Physician Associate programs as well as students enrolled in the School of Arts and Sciences of Yale University.

Paramount among the teaching activities of the clinical medical staff is the graduate medical education program, tailored to train the next generation of pathologists. This resident training in pathology at Yale is provided by the Department of Pathology and the Department of Laboratory Medicine and is accredited by ACGME. An integral aspect of the program is to train our residents to be teachers, a role central to their profession and career. Thus in addition to core training, the resident experience includes preparing and delivering didactic lectures, peer teaching, and a concerted role in the teaching of Yale medical students and in the Pathologists' Assistant and forensic science programs.

Graduates of the pathology training program at Yale practice throughout the world, and while many assume research and clinical leadership roles at academic and teaching centers, they also, importantly, assume critical roles on the staff of community hospitals.

The Yale Pathology Autopsy Service is just one example of the unique settings at Yale where the clinical and academic missions overlap. The Yale Pathology Autopsy Service, which performs approximately one third of all of the medical autopsies done in Connecticut each year, provides a comprehensive, integrated environment for learning, teaching, and professional consultation.

The diversity of the faculty and the breadth of experience of the autopsy and morgue staff lead to invaluable training opportunities in autopsy gross dissection, photography, microscopic evaluation, preparation of autopsy reports, clinicopathologic correlation, and synthesis of reasonable cause of death statements, among other important aspects of the autopsy.

The education and training of medical students, pathology and other clinical residents, undergraduate interns, pathology assistant students, and undergraduates are important facets of the daily operations of the autopsy service, and are supplemented by didactic lectures, peer case presentations, and literature reviews. We tailor the participation and experience of each of these groups to provide the tools required for excellence in autopsy pathology.

Finally, as a diagnostic consultation service, the Autopsy Program provides valuable feedback on clinical care to the attending physicians of Yale–New Haven and Bridgeport Hospitals.



Yale Pathology Autopsy Service