



## Yale University School of Medicine Department of Pathology Fellowship In Gastrointestinal Pathology

**Overview:** The Gastrointestinal Pathology fellowship at Yale is a one-year program combining training in diagnostic gastrointestinal and hepatic pathology with clinical research. There is an opportunity to spend additional years in basic research. The clinical activities of the Program in Gastrointestinal Pathology include reporting on about 10,000 gastrointestinal and pancreatobiliary specimens and over 500 liver biopsies per year. The fellow will take a major role in clinicopathologic conferences and will assist in the training of first and second year residents. Strengths of the program include the dedicated nature of the gastrointestinal pathology service, the strong and diverse clinical gastroenterology and hepatology programs at Yale, and extensive teaching materials within the department. Research may be undertaken as part of active interdepartmental research programs aimed at understanding the pathobiology and improving the diagnosis and management of gastrointestinal diseases. There is a strong and long established interest in diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, liver, biliary tract, and pancreas at Yale, with outstanding research programs in each area. There are opportunities to work with research groups in the Department of Pathology and such departments as Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, Cell Biology, Physiology, Biology, Public Health, Epidemiology, and the Yale Cancer Center.

**Requirements:** Three years of training in anatomic pathology or four years combined anatomic and clinical pathology.

**Stipends:** Stipends commensurate with hospital policy.

**Application:** Apply to Marie E. Robert, M.D., Director, Program in Gastrointestinal Pathology, Department of Pathology, Yale University School of Medicine, P.O. Box 208023, New Haven, CT 06520-8023.

Applications should be submitted by November 15, for the fellowship year 19 months following.

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### “Special Competency” Accreditation

The Yale Gastrointestinal Pathology Fellowship Program has been accredited by the Accreditation council for Graduate medical Education (ACGME) as a special competency fellowship.

### Where Are Our GI Fellows Now?

More than 50% of graduates from the Yale Gastrointestinal Pathology Program since 1990 are academic pathologists at major academic institutions across the United States. These institutions include the University of Washington, Indiana University, and Yale University (4 fellows). Fellows are also successfully placed in a variety of private practice settings, including large clinical hospitals and specialty laboratories.

**Detailed Description:** The gastrointestinal (GI) pathology service at Yale is a large, interactive practice comprised of five GI pathologists who oversee more than 10,000 surgical pathology cases per year. The GI pathology fellowship at Yale is a one year experience with a primary emphasis on acquiring outstanding skills in diagnostic pathology of gastrointestinal specimens. In addition to a rigorous clinical schedule, fellows participate in research, attend and give intra- and interdepartmental conferences, and teach pathology residents and clinical fellows.

GI pathology at Yale is a subspecialty service, where only GI specimens are grossed in and signed out. The sign out team consists of an attending, the GI fellow and a resident who rotates monthly. Each day 40-50 GI biopsies, liver biopsies and resections are signed out. In the gross room, the GI fellow teaches residents in the handling of all GI specimens. The attending frequently examines complicated specimens. As the fellow gains experience and confidence, graduated responsibility is quickly given in decision making in the gross room.

All slides (biopsies and resections) are reviewed by the GI fellow, independent of the resident prior to sign out. This is done to ensure that residents generate an independent opinion. Residents write up all resections, while biopsies are dictated by either the attending or fellow. At the time of sign out with the attending, all cases are reviewed and discussed by the entire team together at a multiheaded microscope. Following sign out of in house cases, the GI fellow and attending sign out consults and discuss conferences.

The role of the resident and fellow are distinct and clearly defined. The resident is responsible for all in house cases, while the fellow serves as supervisor and teacher. The fellow is responsible for generating his or her own opinion on in house cases, outside consults, and for ensuring the orderly flow of the service. The fellow becomes adept at ordering special stains and molecular studies independently and in reviewing the literature on unusual cases. At sign out, it is expected that the fellow will be able to generate an extensive differential diagnosis and be prepared to discuss the clinical consequences of diagnoses at length. In addition, the fellow is a liaison to the clinical service, becoming a consultant to clinical GI fellows and attendings. The GI fellow is frequently asked to show and discuss cases with the clinical team on rounds.

The GI fellow quickly attains graduated responsibility in sign out. Within one month, the fellow begins dictating biopsies prior to sign out. At the time of sign out the fellow's diagnoses are discussed and corrected as needed. Within two months the fellow signs out with the resident one day each week. In addition, the fellow is responsible for teaching residents in gross and histologic interpretation as well as case management. The fellow also presents the pathology component at two weekly interdepartmental case conferences throughout the year and gives conferences to clinical GI fellows.

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