Introduction

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Pathology is the study of disease. The Course in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine provides an introduction to the mechanisms of disease and to the morphology and clinical characteristics of a broad spectrum of disease entities. In the Course we will aim to provide a foundation for the understanding of the disease state at the molecular, cellular, tissue, organ, and organismal levels.

By the end of the course, we expect that you will have:

1. Sufficient data about basic disease reactions and organ specific reactions so that you can:
   a. Interpret signs and symptoms elicited in a patient’s history and create a differential diagnosis
   b. Interpret laboratory data
   c. Anticipate the natural course of disease
   d. Continue to learn the pathophysiology of disease
   e. Understand possible avenues of medical or surgical therapy

2. Sufficient knowledge of gross pathology and histopathology so that you can:
   a. Interpret findings at surgery
   b. Interpret pathology reports
   c. Intelligently review pathology slides with a consulting pathologist

3. A basic understanding of diagnostic laboratory evaluation and of the relationship between laboratory and morphological changes in diseases states.

4. An awareness of the role of the autopsy in medicine.

In addition, we expect that the unique format of this course will enable you:

1. To develop skills in self-directed learning, problem solving, critical reasoning, presenting data, and intellectual team work
2. To relate basic science knowledge to clinical medicine
3. To read and assess with critical intelligence the current medical literature to facilitate life-long learning