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GENERAL INFORMATION

General pathology is a specialty concerned with all aspects of laboratory investigation in health and disease that focuses on the causes, manifestations and diagnosis of disease. A pathologist may act as a consultant for clinical physicians and their advice is often sought in the treatment of patients. Pathologists apply a range of biomedical science knowledge to achieve a diagnosis.

General/clinical pathology is the specialty encompassing autopsy, surgical pathology, anatomical pathology, cytology and medical biochemistry, hematological pathology, medical microbiology and transfusion medicine.

General pathologists are competent in the selection and interpretation of diagnostic tests, in the principles of methodology instrumentation and quality control, and managerial skills appropriate to the direction of a clinical laboratory in a community hospital.

Source: Pathway evaluation program
GENERAL INFORMATION

They are involved in the day-to-day liaison between the laboratory and the clinical staff and serve as consultants to clinical colleagues in the application of the resources of the laboratory to help solve clinical problems.

Upon completion of medical school, to become certified in general pathology requires an additional 5 years of Royal College-approved residency training. This training includes:

• 1 year of basic clinical training;
• 2 years of Royal College-approved training in anatomical pathology that must include: 1 year of surgical pathology; at least 2 months of training in a formal, structured medico-legal autopsy program, which must provide exposure to an appropriate mix of medico-legal autopsy cases in sufficient numbers to meet training objectives; and 3 months training in cytopathology;
GENERAL INFORMATION

- 6 months of Royal College-approved training in each of medical biochemistry; hematological pathology, incorporating morphological hematology, coagulation, and transfusion medicine; microbiology, including bacteriology, immunology, mycology, parasitology and virology;
- 6 months of electives including experience in laboratories in smaller community hospitals and in freestanding clinical laboratories. It must include training in facilities with laboratory physicians practicing general pathology.

For further details on training requirements please go to:

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

Canadian Association of Pathologists

Source: Pathway evaluation program
## Total number & number/100,000 population by province, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>Physicians</th>
<th>Phys/100k pop’n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newfoundland/Labrador</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>325</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Number/100,000 population, 1995 to 2016

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Number by gender & year, 1995 to 2016

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Percentage by gender & age, 2016

Gender
- Male: 64%
- Female: 36%

Age Group
- <35: 3%
- 35-44: 20%
- 45-54: 29%
- 55-64: 29%
- 65+: 19%

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Number by gender & age, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2016 CMA Masterfile
Percentage by main work setting, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community hospital</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free-standing lab/diagnostic clinic</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Health Sciences Centre</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Office/Clinic</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other hospital</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2014 data for this specialty is not available

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
### Hours worked per week (excluding on-call), 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours worked per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care without teaching component</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>47.2</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2014 and 2013 data for this specialty is not available

Source: 2010 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Percentage by remuneration method

Primary payment method in 2013

- 90% + fee-for-service: 30%
- 90% + salary: 25%
- 90% + other*: 12%
- Blended: 10%
- NR: 10%

* Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Professional & work-life balance satisfaction, 2013

**Balance of personal & professional commitments**

- Satisfied or very satisfied: 16%
- Neutral: 17%
- Dissatisfied or very dissatisfied: 20%
- NR: 48%

**Current professional life**

- Satisfied or very satisfied: 16%
- Neutral: 8%
- Dissatisfied or very dissatisfied: 11%
- NR: 65%

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of retirees during the three year period of 2013-2015

Source: CMA Masterfile – year over year comparisons
Note: “Retired” is based on giving up licence and therefore excludes those who have retired from clinical practice but are still licensed; those younger than 45 may include physicians who have temporarily given up their licence but return to practice at a later date.
## Total & Ministry funded postgraduate MD trainees in 2014/15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUN</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
First year & exiting postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15

**First year**: 7 Female, 4 Male

**Postgrad exits**: 7 IMG, 8 GCMS, 4 Male GCMS

**Source**: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER

**Abbreviations**
- IMG – International Medical Graduates
- GCMS – Graduates of Canadian Medical Schools
Postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15

- Total of 14 first year General Pathology trainees representing 35% of all General Pathology trainees.
- Total of 40 General Pathology trainees representing 0.3% of all Ministry funded trainees.
- Total of 1 visa trainee in General Pathology.
- Total of 8 General Pathology trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Location of 2013 postgraduate-MD exits in 2015

Of the 4 exits in 2013, all were known to be practising in Canada

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Stress associated with finding employment at end of residency

**FM resident**
- Not stressful: 43%
- Somewhat stressful: 42%
- Very stressful: 8%

**Other spec res**
- Not stressful: 20%
- Somewhat stressful: 50%
- Very stressful: 25%

Source: 2012 National Physician Survey of residents. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Links to the Organizations Supplying Information for this Document

- National Physician Survey
- Canadian Medical Association
- Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- College of Family Physicians of Canada
- Canadian Institute for Health Information