

## **FORENSIC PATHOLOGY**

### **Criteria for Credentialing on National Specialist Register of Malaysia**

#### **1. Qualifications**

- 1.1 Possess a basic medical degree recognised by the Malaysian Medical Council
- 1.2 Is fully registered as a medical practitioner with the Malaysian Medical Council and possesses a current annual practicing certificate from the Malaysian Medical Council
- 1.3 Holds a postgraduate degree in Forensic Pathology recognized by the Government of Malaysia
  1. Member/Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK (MRCPath Forensic), (FRCPath Forensic)
  2. Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (FRCPA Forensic)
  3. Master of Pathology (Forensic), Universiti Malaya
  4. Master of Pathology (Forensic), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
  5. Master of Science (Medical Science), Glasgow
  6. Diploma in Medical Jurisprudence (Path), Society of Apothecaries, London
  7. Any other equivalent Forensic Pathology postgraduate degree recognised by the Forensic Pathology Specialty Committee. In such cases, consideration will be on a case by case basis. The following will be considered in the deliberations:
    - a. The total period of training in Forensic Pathology should not be less than 4 (FOUR) years and should be equivalent to that in Clause 2.2 and satisfy Clause 2.3
    - b. The training should be carried out in an accredited Forensic Pathology Center for training
    - c. Evidence of satisfactory training shall include:
      - i. Curriculum of the training programme
      - ii. Evidence of satisfactory completion of the training programme
      - iii. Reports from supervisor (s) / trainer (s) on satisfactory achievement of Clauses 2.2 and 2.3

#### **2. Training**

- 2.1 The training programme should have the specific objectives of producing a competent Forensic Pathologist with specialist level skills in Forensic Pathology, Forensic Histopathology, Forensic Toxicology, and Clinical Autopsy examination with competence in management and organization of the diagnostic Forensic Pathology services.
- 2.2 The training programme should include at least 3 (THREE) years of supervised training in an accredited Forensic Pathology Center with acquisition of competence to perform the following:

| <b>Practical Skills</b>   | <b>Level of competence</b>                 |
|---|--|
| Forensic and Clinical autopsy examination and reporting of results  | Able to perform unsupervised               |
| Manage a diagnostic Forensic Pathology laboratory   | Able to perform unsupervised               |
| Manage crime scene investigation in relation to finding the cause of death  | Able to perform unsupervised               |
| Provide active consultancy services to the hospital, police, enforcement agencies, Attorney General Chamber, etc. | Able to perform unsupervised               |
| Reporting of routine forensic histopathology slides including histochemistry and immunohistochemistry             | Able to perform unsupervised               |
| Recognise common ultrastructural changes of diagnostic significance   | Able to perform under indirect supervision |
| Frozen sections of forensic related cases   | Able to perform under indirect supervision |

2.3 The training programme should ensure that the following procedures have been undertaken and assessed during the training period.

| <b>Procedure</b>   | <b>Number to be undertaken</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Forensic autopsies and reporting                           | 400                            |
| Forensic histopathology reporting                          | 400                            |
| Forensic frozen section reporting                          | 30                             |
| Consultancy report writing to lawyer or enforcement agency | 10                             |

### **3. Work Experience**

- 3.1 At least 6 (SIX) months of working experience under supervision in an accredited Forensic Pathology Center after acquisition of the postgraduate professional qualification as in Clause 1.3.
- 3.2 The above clause (3.1) should be evidenced by a supervisor (s) report (s) indicating satisfactory completion of the supervised working experience

### **4. Designations**

- 4.1 A Forensic Pathologist is a Pathologist who practices Forensic Pathology and is competent to carry out Forensic Autopsies; Clinical Forensic Examinations, Forensic Pathology laboratory analysis, interpretation and conclusion; crime scene investigation in relation to finding the cause of death; and giving evidence in court as an expert witness.

## **5 Exemptions**

- 5.1 A senior Forensic Pathologist practicing in Malaysia for at least 5 (FIVE) years and recognized by his/her peers can be credentialed as a Forensic Pathologist without the need for submission of details of training (Clause 2) and a supervisor's report (Clause 3) if he/she fulfils one of the following criteria:
- 5.1.1 Has been gazetted as a Forensic Pathologist by the Ministry of Health and currently practices as a Forensic Pathologist in Malaysia
  - 5.1.2 Is currently registered as a Forensic Pathologist under the Specialist Register of the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia and currently practices as a Forensic Pathologist in Malaysia
  - 5.1.3 Is currently appointed as an academic staff of a local university and currently practices as a Forensic Pathologist in Malaysia
  - 5.1.4 Notwithstanding any of the above, the Forensic Pathologist Specialty Committee reserves the right to assess applications which do not conform to Clauses 2, 3 and on a case-by-case basis for recommendation to the National Credentialing Committee for approval.

## **6 Professional Good Standing**

- 6.1 The onus lies with the applicant to declare to the Forensic Pathology Specialty Committee any instance (s) of loss of professional good standing