Trainees Session: Realities, Problems & Perspective

- The role of subspecialization in the training of pathology in Europe
- Turkish Roadmap
  Serpil Dizbay Sak
Pathology training/practice is very heterogeneous across Europe

- Entrance
- Duration
- Execution
- Graduation

- Technical equipment
- Salaries
- Reimbursement system
- Culture of the departments

- The questionnaires
- Literature
- Personal communications
Patoloji
Tarih: 22.2.1988
Biopsi No.: 723

Makroskopik: 5x9x4 cm. boyutlarında lipomatöz doku parçası. Yapılan kesitlerde beyaz renkte sert kivanda tümöröz oluşumla infiltre yağ dokuğu gözlandi.

Mikroskopik: Kesitlerin incelenmesinde fibroadipöz stroma içinde yer yer parçalardaki proliferatif atipik epitelle döşeli duktusların içinde ve stromada matik nükleusu eozinofilik sitoplazmali atipik epitelyal hücre gurupları yaptığı gözlandı.

Mikroskopik Tanı: İnfiltratif Duktal Ca.
Result

• An individual case
  – More time (pathologist & technician)
  – More detail
  – More money
  – More knowledge
Fig. 1 Answers to Likert-type questions about physical conditions, hierarchical order, training conditions, perception of pathology, awareness, and happiness
• Overworked
• Underpayed
• Underappreciated
How does it feel to be a pathology resident? Results of a survey on experiences and job satisfaction during pathology residency

Baturı Pelivanoğlu, Har Hanasy, Catarina Caldeira, Amelie Dendouven, ILK E Nathanoglou, Lidilı Yıldızlı, Gültekin Göl, Banuk Doganavaroğlu

Fig. 1 Answers to Likert-type questions about physical conditions, hierarchical order, training conditions, perception of pathology, awareness, and happiness

Almost 84% were happy to have chosen pathology, describing it as “puzzle-solving,” “a different fascinating world,” and “challenging while being crucial for patient management.” More than two thirds (72%) considered pathology and pathologists to face a bright future. However, a noticeable number of respondents
Most of them have a masochistic tendency.

Pathologists have distinct **personalities**. They tend to be investigative individuals, which means they’re **intellectual, introspective, and inquisitive**. They are curious, methodical, rational, analytical, and logical. Some of them are also conventional, meaning they’re **conscientious and conservative**.

**Are you suited to be a pathologist?**

Pathologists have distinct **personalities**. They tend to be investigative individuals, which means they’re **intellectual, introspective, and inquisitive**. They are curious, methodical, rational, analytical, and logical. Some of them are also conventional, meaning they’re **conscientious and conservative**.

Most of them have a masochistic tendency.

one of your top career matches.
Cardiac surgery, children's cardiac surgery, general thoracic surgery (disorders of the lungs and esophagus), congenital cardiac surgery, and heart and lung transplant surgery.

A cardiothoracic surgeon may treat: coronary artery disease or blockages of the arteries in the heart, blockages in the heart valve(s), leaking heart valve(s), abnormal enlargement or aneurysms of the large arteries in the chest, heart failure, and atrial fibrillation.

Monitoring patients in intensive care is an important part of a cardiothoracic surgeon’s work – although cardiothoracic surgery is very safe, complications can sometimes occur, including heart-beat irregularity (arrhythmias), stroke, post-operative bleeding, fluid around the lungs, infection, or thrombosis.

Are you suited to be a cardiothoracic surgeon?

Cardiothoracic surgeons have distinct personalities. They tend to be investigative individuals, which means they’re intellectual, introspective, and inquisitive. They are curious, methodical, rational, analytical, and logical. Some of them are also realistic, meaning they’re independent, stable, persistent, genuine, practical, and thrifty.

Does this sound like you? Take our free career test to find out if cardiothoracic surgeon is one of your top career matches.
How does it feel to be a pathology resident? Results of a survey on experiences and job satisfaction during pathology residency

Burcin Pehlivanoglu1,4, Har Haasey2, Catarina Calde3, Annalie Dendooven3, Ilke Nalbantoglu4, Lidia Reschkeikova5, Gulay Gu1, Barak Doganavargil1

Fig. 1 Answers to Likert-type questions about physical conditions, hierarchical order, training conditions, perception of pathology, awareness, and happiness

positioned in their country’s health care system. Almost 84% were happy to have chosen pathology, describing it as “puzzle solving,” “a different fascinating world,” and “challenging while being crucial for patient management.” More than two thirds (72%) considered pathology and pathologists to face a bright future. However, a noticeable number of respondents
• Being a general pathologist is not enough
  – to provide enough knowledge/skills in all areas
  – keep pace with the new developments

• Subspecialties are born
  – Being a subspecialist:
    • Obvious career path after completion of general pathology training
      – to gain additional knowledge and advanced skills, which are acquired only in part, during general training.
• Subspecialties
  – General trend in most specialties
  – Only a minority are accepted by National Authorities

- Cytopathology
  - Turkey
- Dermatopathology
  - Portugal
  - UK
  - Ireland
- Neuropathology
  - Austria
  - Portugal
  - The Netherlands
  - UK
  - Ireland
- Pediatric and Forensic Pathology
  - UK
  - Ireland
Subspecialty education/practice

- Advanced / larger centers that can afford to dedicate resources to a special area
  - Pathologists working predominantly in a special area
  - Research in that special area
  - Training in that particular area

Subspecialty education performed in a rather organized, but not always recognized (by the health authority) way
Giordano Fellowship & ESP Advanced Training (EAT) Centres

Examples of specialist fields and techniques in pathology in which special training is necessary (other fields may be added)

Specialist fields

Special techniques (open also to technicians/medical scientists)

- Electron microscopy
- Immunofluorescence
- Immunohistochemistry
- Molecular pathology
- Morphometry
- Enzyme histochemistry
- Tissue microarrays
- Digital microscopy
• More structured “subspecialty” programs
• Available for more pathologists
• Recognition
Subspeciality in Pathology in Turkey

• Cytology is the only official subspecialty
• People working in other special areas
  – Working groups of Turkish Federation of Pathology Societies
  – Inclusive groups of interested pathologists working in a particular area,
    • Educational meetings:
      – One meeting outside the congress/year
      – Monthly meetings in big cities
    • Organization of the congress program
  – No formal education
Need for a structured education

• Nephropathology WG:
  – Nephropathology education is very heterogenous across Turkey
  – Poorly educated pathologists experience problems when they begin to work in centers with a high NP demand

• Molecular Pathology WG:
  – Standard education in most hospitals is not sufficient
  – There is a void in MP services
  – This void is filled by geneticists
Subspecialty in pathology

- A survey was sent
- Working groups were encouraged to discuss the issue in their e-mail and WhatsApp groups.
- Each working group prepared a position paper
  - Is subspecialization (a structured postgraduate education) necessary in this particular area?

- One day workshop
- Results of survey
- Opinions of WG’s
- Legal framework
- How it is done in the rest of the world?
- Cytogist’s opinions
  - The only subspecialty
- Pros
- Cons
- Road map
Subspecialty in pathology

• Pros:
  – Improved quality of pathology reports
  – Fast track for difficult/special cases
  – Personal development of pathologist
  – Protecting our domain from the invasion of other specialties
  – Positive effect in job search

• Cons:
  – Long waiting lists for education because educating centers are limited
  – Inequality between general and specialized pathologists. Effects of inequality on the working environment
    • Workload
    • Financial
  – Unpredictable legal and administrative decisions that may be taken by the state.
Subspecialty in pathology: Results of survey and workshop

- 84%: there is a need for a structured program in some areas of pathology
- It is nearly impossible to establish
  - a formal subspecialty
  - a formal certificate program that will fit the need
The road map

- Structured training need in a particular area
  - Discussion within the group
  - Preparation of a “structured education program” proposal
- Execution according to the rules
- Examination
- Ministry of health will accept and act accordingly

- Council Federation of Turkish Pathology Societies

- Approve
- Deny
- Ask for revision
- Announcement
- Approval
- Documentation
- Examination
- Approval
- Documentation
- Announcement

- Legal
- Legitimate

Pathology community will respect and act accordingly
THANK YOU