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Associate Faculty

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Professor Hsien-Ching Chiu (Taiwan)  Dr Gong Swee-Kim (Malaysia)
1. Introduction

Dermatopathology is an essential component of good clinical practice in dermatology.

There is an urgent need to build up a capacity in dermatopathology for the region in keeping with international development.

Currently, in many countries, dermatopathology work is done by general pathologists, many of whom have no formal exposure to clinical dermatology.

This is a regionally-based CPD training program in dermatopathology undertaken by the Asian Academy of Dermatology and Venereology starting from the 2nd Asian Dermatology Summit 2010.

2. Program Summary

The FAADV (Clinical Dermatopathology) is a regional/international training fellowship conducted over one academic year and is designed as an AADV Board certified fellowship for subspecialty training for dermatopathology in the Asean/Asian region. Training is integrated and multi-centred to give trainees maximal exposure to the specialty of dermatopathology in the Asean/Asian region.

Eligible candidates must have completed their specialist dermatology/general pathology training and be board eligible or certified by their national specialist credentialing authority.

The training program of one academic year shall cover the following:

1. Additional three months full-time OR part-time training at dermatopathology training centre listed above.

2. At least one attendance certification of international dermatopathology meeting (two whole days or longer).

3. Case study of attendance of distance-learning modules in conjunction with St. Johns’ Institute for Skin Diseases, London, Dermpedia, International Society of Dermatopathology (ISDP), and other websites or regional centres. The minimal requirement is 6 cases. The record of case study should include case history, histopathology images, differential diagnosis, correct diagnosis, discussion, and reference.

4. Exemptions from specific sections of the program can be considered for trainees with previous supervised training in dermatopathology. Evidence of previous training and completion of log book will need to be submitted to the Board of Examiners for consideration before trainees are allowed to sit for the exit examination.

5. Exit examination and viva to be conducted yearly. Upon passing the exit examination, trainees shall be eligible for the award of FAADV (Clinical Dermatopathology).
3. Program Content

The trainee is expected to attain experience, knowledge and competency in all areas of the core skills and core topics.

Supervision by trainers and mentors and satisfactory completion of training shall be dutifully recorded and certified in the Trainees’ Log Book.

Core Skills:
Trainees are expected to:

• Acquire full gamut of clinical dermatopathology work starting with systematic evaluation of skin biopsies, slide reading skills, making dermatopathology diagnoses, reporting and giving evidence-based dermatopathology opinions
• Report full range of dermatopathology slides totalling no less than 1000 for the academic year (under supervision and independently)
• Participate in laboratory procedures, frozen sections, Mohs surgery (optional), special stains and techniques, immunopathology, immunofluorescence, immunohistochemistry, and other molecular diagnostic techniques.
• Be competent in clinical pathology presentations, microbiology, mycology, bacteriology, virology, and electron microscopy
• Able to effectively communicate with clinicians concerning dermatopathology diagnoses
• Participate in hands-on preparation and submission of cases for distance-learning module
• Provide service in hands-on work at home station when not on out-of station modules
• Undertake research projects, teaching, publications and local and national presentations will be required

Core Topics:
• Histology of the skin
• Pattern of inflammatory disorders
• Spongiotic dermatitis
• Intraepidermal bullous disorders
• Subepidermal bullous disorders
• Immunofluorescence tests
• Interface & lichenoid dermatitis
• Psoriasiform dermatitis
• Superficial, superficial & deep dermatitis
• Vasculitis & vasculopathy
• Granulomatous dermatitis
• Nodular & diffuse infiltrate
• Panniculitis
• Bacterial infection
• Mycobacterial infection
• Fungal infection
• Viral infection
• Deposition disorders
• Sclerosing dermatitis, disorders of collagen & elastic fibers

4. Participating Institutions and Accredited Regional Training Centres (as per updated FAADV schedule). This list shall be updated from time to time.
5. Exit Examination/Viva

Shall be conducted yearly at Annual AADV meeting

Only candidates who have completed all modules of the program and log books to the satisfaction of the trainers will be allowed to proceed to the examination. Candidates with previous experience and training within their home institutions may apply for exemption from specific sections subject to approval by their trainers. Application for exemption must be accompanied by certified documentary evidence of such training.

Exit examination shall be by way of a written test (2 hours), slide reading assessment (2 hours) and viva. Questions on any aspect of dermatopathology can be expected.

Examination passing criteria and format will decided by Board of Examiners.

Board of Examiners shall be by appointment by the Executive Board of the AADV and will be posted on the AADV website 30 days prior to the date of the examination.

6. Credentialing and Cross-Border Recognition

National Specialist Recognition: This is to be developed and pursued by national dermatological societies in accordance to local criteria/AFAS/MRA

The Fellowship Certificate for the FAADV (Clinical Dermatopathology) shall be awarded by the AADV at a formal conferment ceremony. Participating institutions in the respective countries shall be invited to jointly award a Certificate of Competence in Clinical Dermatopathology together with the AADV to successful candidates.

7. Finances

This training program is a self-help, not-for-profit project undertaken with the support of the Asian Skin Foundation of the AADV.

This shall be donor-based via the Asian Skin Foundation/AADV. Funding from local dermatological societies shall be requested for components of training within their country.

There may be administrative and / or course fees charged by specific training institutions. Candidates are requested to seek information regarding this from the secretariat.

All trainees are expected to be able to finance their program independently. Scholarships and subsidized course fees may be available from door institutions from time to time. Applications for scholarships shall be submitted to the Board for consideration.

8. All enquiries and application forms must be submitted to:

AADV Secretariat

c/o G-1 Medical Academies of Malaysia, 210 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 603-4023 4700 / 603-4025 4700 / 603-4025 3700
Fax: 603-4023 8100
Email: secretariat@asianderm.org
Executive Officer: Ms YM Kong
ADDV Secretariat

c/o: G-1 Medical Academies of Malaysia
210 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: 603-4023 4700, 603-4025 4700   Fax: 603-4023 8100

Email: secretariat@asianderm.org
URL: www.asianderm.org

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