University of South Dakota
Sanford School of Medicine

Department of Pathology
2020 Annual Report

Michael R. D. Koch, M.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Pathology
August 5, 2020
Pathology Department Priorities

– The Department of Pathology strives to support the Sanford School of Medicine in the areas of education, research and service.
– The Department does, however, place its main emphasis on undergraduate and graduate medical education.

Department Organizational Chart
Department Administration

Chair

Michael R. D. Koch, M.D.

Vice Chair

Douglas Lynch, M.D.

Department Administrative Staff

Pat Blake - Senior Secretary

Kris Pearson - Senior Secretary

Shari Snell-Drilling - Department Manager/PAII

Jill Pick - Residency Program Coordinator
Department Academic Faculty

Ryan Askeland, M.D.

Kimberlee C. Bohy, M.D.

Michael Geis, M.D.

Ali Jassim, M.D., PhD

Mark W. Johnson, M.D.

Amy Kerkvliet, M.D.
Department Academic Faculty

Michael R. D. Koch, M.D.

Douglas Lynch, M.D.

DesiRae M. Muirhead, M.D.

Kenneth Snell, M.D.

Ashwna Sunassee, M.D.
Regional Clinical Faculty

Jacky Akhter, M.D.  
Angela Barnes, P.A.  
Nicole Blue Arm, M.D.  
Aaron Amundson, D.O.  
Susan Eliason, M.D.  
Kia Erickson, M.D.  
Kimberly Goble, M.D.  
Victoria Graham, M.D.  
Don Haabe, M.D.  
Tyler Haffler, M.D.  
Victoria Herr, M.D.  
Kayla Hoerschgen, M.D.  
Richard Strom, M.D.  
Henry Travers, M.D.  
Lauren Murer, M.D.  
Katie Shewbart, D.O.  
Heather Peck, M.D.  
Erica Peterson, P.A.  
Karah White, M.D.  
David Ohrt, Ph.D., M.D.  
Dylan Pratt, M.D.  
Erin Quist, M.D.  
Brad Randall, M.D.  
Bailey Reindl, M.D.  
Jeff Schleusener, M.D.  
Amy Fairchild, P.A.  
B. Joel Tjarks, M.D.

Faculty and Staff Retirements

Keith A. Anderson, M.D.  
Sanford Health, Sioux Falls

Karla Murphy, M.D.  
Physician’s Laboratory, Sioux Falls
Education

Undergraduate Medical Education

Pillar I Educational Activities
The department has fully integrated into the Pillar I curriculum, lecturing in 9 of the 10 Pillar I blocks

Dr. Koch continues as the co-course director of the Hematology/Hemostasis Block

Pillar I students are also encouraged to visit the department in their “white space” time

Six MSI students spent time in the department this last year

Faculty Pillar I Lectures

Dr. Michael Koch
Blood Banking, Blood Gases, Bone Pathology, Breast Pathology, Dermatopathology, Endocrine Pathology, Female Genital Tract Pathology, Genetics, GI Tract Pathology, Pancreas Pathology, Head, Neck and Ocular Pathology, Hematopathology, Hemostasis, Laboratory Methods and Statistics, Liver/Gall Bladder Pathology, Surgical Pathology Methods, Male GU/Bladder Pathology, Muscle Pathology, Neoplasia, Neuropathology (CNS and PNS), Nutrition, Pediatric Pathology, Pre and Post-test reviews/remediation, Pulmonary Pathology, Renal Pathology, Spleen/Lymph Node Pathology, Soft Tissue Pathology and Urinalysis

Dr. Kenneth Snell
Autopsy/Forensic Pathology and Environmental Pathology

Dr. Karah White
Acute and Chronic Inflammation, Cell Injury and Cell Death, Diseases of Immunity, Hemodynamics, Thromboembolic Disease and Shock and Tissue Repair

The Pathology Pillar I educational lecturers continue to receive excellent GQ ratings for their teaching efforts in Pillar I

Pillar II Educational Activities

Eight students participated in Pathology “White Space Time” in the 2018-2019 school year

Three of these students have expressed an interest in a career in Pathology
Pillar III Educational Activities

Pathology Electives (MSIV)
Flexible as to length of rotation and rotation content
Efforts are made to tailor the rotation to meet the students’ future needs

Sites and Coordinators
  Douglas Lynch, M.D. – Sanford Health/Sioux Falls campus
  Bailey Reindl, M.D. – Avera Health/Sioux Falls campus
  Richard Strom, M.D. – Yankton campus
  Victoria Herr, M.D. – Rapid City campus

The majority of students are Sanford students, but non-Sanford, prospective pathology residents may also take an elective - if the time slot is open. Multiple electives were canceled due to the current pandemic.

Pathology Electives (MSIV) 2019-2020 electives per site
  Sanford USD Medical Center - 11 students
  Rapid City Regional Hospital - 5 students
  Avera/Sacred Heart Hospital - 4 students
  Avera/McKennan - 6 students
  Research electives - 3 students
  Dr. Koch’s online Pathology elective - 8 students
  37 students this year as compared to 46 last year and 30 the year before

Pathology Interest Group (MSI - MSIV)
The Student Club for Ongoing Pathology Education, or SCOPE, founded in 2104, continues to foster student interest in Pathology

Spring and Fall events are scheduled annually and have been well attended
  63 students attended the Fall 2019 meeting and 8 students attended the Spring 2020 meeting via Zoom
  48 MSI students attended the noon "Pathology as a Career" presentation in Vermillion last spring

Eli Louwagie, M.D./PhD candidate – President
Emily Storm, M.D./PhD candidate - Vice President
Danielle Mack, MSI – Secretary/Treasurer
Graduate Medical Education

Pathology Residency Program

A Sanford USD Medical Center/VA based Pathology Residency
Has been in existence since the late 1950’s

Pathology Residency Program Administration
   Director - DesiRae Muirhead, M.D.
   Assistant Program Director - Douglas Lynch, M.D.
   Sioux Falls VA Residency Coordinator - David Ohrt, Ph.D., M.D.
   Program Coordinator - Jill Pick

Fully approved and funded for up to ten positions
   Three at the VA Medical Center and seven at Sanford USD Medical Center

58 program graduates to date
   34 SSOM graduates
   13 practicing in South Dakota
   21 practicing elsewhere in the Midwest

2019 Resident In-service Exam (RISE)
   The current residents, as a residency program, scored in the 40th percentile nationally
   Individual percentile scores ranging from the 14th percentile to the 72nd percentile

2020 Pathology Residency Graduates

Joseph Gormley, M.D. #*
Surgical Pathology Fellowship
University of Utah

Arwyn Cunningham, D.O.
Surgical Pathology Fellowship
University of Texas Galveston
Current Pathology Residents
PG-IV - Karah White, M.D. – Chief Resident #*
PG-III - Kia Erickson, M.D.#
PG-III - Tyler Haffler, M.D.
PG-II - Jacky Akhter, M.D.
PG-II - Kayla Hoerschgen, M.D.
PG-II - Dylan Pratt, M.D.
PG-I - New residents

Aaron Amundson, D.O.
Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Victoria Graham, M.D. *
Sanford School of Medicine

Katie Shewbart, D.O.
RVU College of Osteopathy

#SD native   *SSOM graduate

Recruitment

Already receiving requests for Pillar III elective rotations from interested medical students

SCOPE continues to be a good recruitment tool for our residency program, and we are planning for our fall event
Continuing Medical Education

The Department provides quarterly Neuropathology and Dermatopathology CME sessions

Service Conferences
Present at Sanford USD Medical Center Tumor Conferences, Lung Conferences, Neurology/Neurosurgery Conferences, Breast Conferences and GI Conferences

Present at the Sioux Falls VAMC Tumor Board and M&M conferences

Outreach Conferences
The academic faculty also provide continuing education to physicians and laboratorians at 40 locations in South Dakota, southwest Minnesota, northwest Iowa and northeast Nebraska

Medical Laboratory Science Education

The Sanford USD Medical Center Medical Laboratory Science Program currently provides the clinical component for Medical Technology/Clinical Laboratory students from local colleges and universities

Consists of one year of didactics and hands on experience in the Sanford USD Medical Center Laboratory

Faculty
Medical Director - Dr. Michael Geis
Sanford School of Medicine Pathology Academic Faculty
Sanford School of Medicine Pathology Residents (Clinical Instructors)
Sanford USD Medical Center Technologists

Faculty Development

“Virtual Interviewing Strategies, Split Recruitment: A novel approach to residency interviews during COVID19 and beyond”. University of Arizona College of Medicine, Phoenix online presentation.
Research and Scholarly Activities

Articles/Editorials

Jacky Akhter, M.D.

Ryan Askeland, M.D.


White KD, Askeland RW, Bohy KC. A Rare Case of Primary Pulmonary Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma and the Diagnostic Challenges on Cytology. South Dakota Medicine. 2020. Accepted for publication.

Kimberly Bohy, M.D.


White KD, Askeland RW, Bohy KC. A Rare Case of Primary Pulmonary Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma and the Diagnostic Challenges on Cytology. South Dakota Medicine. 2020. Accepted for publication.
Arwyn Cunningham, D.O.


Michael Geis, M.D.

Ali Jassim, M.D./Ph D

Amy Kerkvliet, M.D.


White KD, Kerkvliet AM. A 53-year-old male with multiple blisters on hands and forearms. (Porphyria cutanea tarda). ASDP Interactive Case Study of the Month. September 2020. Accepted for publication.


Douglas Lynch, M.D.

DesiRae Muirhead, M.D.

Erin Quist, M.D.

Brad Randall, M.D.


Ashwyna Sunassee, M.D.

B. Joel Tjarks, M.D.


Henry Travers, M.D.


Travers H. The relevant Osler. Does it matter that Osler is relevant when nobody is listening? The Osler Library Newsletter, McGill University, 131: 20-22, 2019.


Karah White, M.D.

Haq I, Patel B, Thambi-Pillai T, Krishna S, Xie C, Odegaard KD, Bohy KC, and Atiq M. The impact of repeating endosonography with confocal endomicroscopy for the


**White KD**, Askeland RW, Bohy KC. A Rare Case of Primary Pulmonary Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma and the Diagnostic Challenges on Cytology. *South Dakota Medicine*. 2020. Accepted for publication.

**White KD**, Kerkvliet AM. A 53-year-old male with multiple blisters on hands and forearms. (Porphyria cutanea tarda). ASDP Interactive Case Study of the Month. September 2020. Accepted for publication. Accepted for publication.


**Abstracts**

Ryan Askeland, M.D.


Kia Erickson, M.D.


Ali Jassim, M.D., Ph.D.

Mark Johnson, M.D.

Amy Kerkvliet, M.D.

Douglas Lynch, M.D.

Ashwyna Sunassee, M.D.

**Posters and Presentations**

Jacky Akhter, M.D.


Akhter J, Sunassee A. "An Important Entity to Consider During EUS-Guided FNA Procedures-Granular Cell Tumors". College of American Pathologists Annual meeting, 2020. Accepted for poster presentation.

Arwyn Cunningham, D.O.

Poster Session 200, Poster Number 1, presented at the College of American Pathologists Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.


Jansen C, Callaway D, Lynch D, **Cunningham A.** Frohm M.L. (2019). Aggressive Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis Following T-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Presented at the American Society of Dermatopathology Annual Meeting,

Kaja Erickson, M.D.

**Erickson, K.,** Riswold, K., Jassim, A. “Is it squamous cell carcinoma hiding in the disguise of a seborrheic keratosis? P53 to the rescue!” Poster for ASDP annual meeting, October 2019, San Diego, CA.


Michael Geis, M.D.

Akhter J, Lynch D, **Geis M.** "Primary Amyloidosis of the Ureter". College of American Pathologists Annual meeting, 2020. Accepted for poster presentation.

Ali Jassim, M.D., Ph D

White KD, Kerkvliet AM, **Jassim AD.** Isolated Cutaneous Epithelioid Hemangioendothelioma Presenting as a Scar on the Shoulder of a 20-year-old. Accepted for Poster Presentation, American Society of Dermatopathology Annual Meeting, November 2020.

White KD, **Jassim AD.** A Small Case Series of a Rare Entity: Superficial epithelioma with sebaceous differentiation. Accepted for Poster Presentation, American Society of Dermatopathology Annual Meeting, November 2020.

White KD, **Jassim AD.** An Exceedingly Rare Case of Acral Melanoma in a 15-month old. Accepted for Poster Presentation, International Society of Dermatopathology Annual Meeting. *Postponed until 2021.*


Amy Kerkvliet, M.D.

**White KD, Kerkvliet AM, Jassim AD.** Isolated Cutaneous Epithelioid Hemangioendothelioma Presenting as a Scar on the Shoulder of a 20-year-old. Accepted

Douglas Lynch, M.D.
Akhter J, **Lynch D**, Geis M. "Primary Amyloidosis of the Ureter". College of American Pathologists Annual meeting, 2020. Accepted for poster presentation.


DesiRae Muirhead, M.D.

Kenneth Snell, M.D.
Berg K & **Snell K.** Use of Molecular Autopsy in Cases of Suspected Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC). Poster session presented at the National Association of Medical Examiners 2019 Annual meeting, October 18-22, 2019, Kansas City, KS.

Ashwyna Sunassee, M.D.
Akhter J, **Sunassee A.** "An Important Entity to Consider During EUS-Guided FNA Procedures-Granular Cell Tumors". College of American Pathologists Annual meeting, 2020. Accepted for poster presentation.

B. Joel Tjarks, M.D.
Henry Travers, M.D.


Karah White, M.D.


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**Ongoing Research Projects**

Determination of Basement Membrane Integrity in Cutaneous Squamous Cell Neoplasms
- Michael Koch, M.D. and Eric Roach, MSIV

Identifying Web-Based Pathology Education Resources
- Michael Koch, M.D.

Henry Travers, M.D.

- Medicine and Religion: An Historical Evolution (Ongoing)
- Medicine and Religion: An Introduction to Antiquity (USDSSOM Medical Student Research)
- The Autopsy of President James A. Garfield
- The Historical Development of Medical Professionalism
Service

Pathology Department Committees and Assignments

Residency Program Education Committee
Dr. D. Muirhead, Dr. D. Lynch, Dr. K. Bohy, Dr. A. Kerkvliet,
Dr. R. Askeland, and Dr. A. Cunningham

Residency Clinical Competency Committee
Dr. D. Muirhead, Dr. D. Lynch, Dr. K. Bohy, Dr. A. Kerkvliet and Dr. R.
Askeland

Sioux Falls VAMC Residency Coordinator
Dr. David W. Ohrt

Pillar III Pathology Elective Coordinators
Michael Geis, M.D. - Sioux Falls Sanford Campus
Bailey Reindl, M.D.- Sioux Falls Avera Campus
Victoria Herr, M.D. - Rapid City Campus
Richard Strom, M.D. - Yankton Campus

Sanford School of Medicine Committees and Assignments

Arwyn Cunningham, D.O.
Graduate Medical Education

Michael R. D. Koch, M.D.
Administrative Council, Chairs, Student Longitudinal Follow-up, Pillar I Course
Directors, FAMER Board, Residency Corporation Board

DesiRae Muirhead, M.D.
Graduate Medical Education, Residency Corporation Board

Kaia Erickson, M.D.
GME QI Committee

Henry Traverse, M.D.
Faculty Council Committee

International Positions/Committees

Henry Travers, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer, World Pathology Foundation
National Positions/Committees

Kia Erickson, M.D.
American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), Resident Council nominee

Karah White, M.D.
College of American Pathologists (CAP) Residents Committee, SD representative

Karla Murphy, M.D.
COLA, Board of Directors 2013-present

State Positions/Committees

Henry Travers, M.D.
Historian, South Dakota State Medical Association

Kenneth Snell, M.D.
Officer, South Dakota Lions Sight and Health Board

Promotions and Awards

Michael R.D. Koch, M.D.
Golden Apple Teaching Award, November 2019

Joshua Klonoski, M.D., PhD (Sanford School of Medicine 2016)
The ASCP award as one of the “40 Under 40” Pathologists in the country for 2020.
Recognizes outstanding younger Pathologists in the U.S.A.
Our third graduate to receive this prestigious honor as Drs. Ross and Tara Miller were previously recognized.