

AFSC 44D4*, Staff
AFSC 44D3*, Qualified
AFSC 44D1*, Entry

★PATHOLOGIST
(Changed 31 Oct 23)

1. Specialty Summary. Diagnoses diseases by performing pathological examinations of body tissue; manages clinical laboratory services. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260120.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

2.1. Diagnoses diseases by performing necropsies and pathological examination of body tissues. Analyzes case histories. Prepares tissues for microscopic examination. Diagnoses nature and source of pathological conditions causing illness and death. Interprets and correlates findings. Prepares diagnostic reports.

2.2. Manages clinical laboratory services. Formulates plans and procedures for clinical laboratory services. Schedules and assigns medical technicians in clinical pathological procedures related to such subjects as hematology, bacteriology, serology, biochemistry, and parasitology. Directs medical officers and technicians in performing such anatomical pathological examinations as biopsies and necropsies involving preparation of tissue for microscopic analysis. Evaluates such laboratory functions as chemical analysis of body fluids and production of antigens and sera. Advises on kind and quantity of medical laboratory supplies and equipment. Coordinates clinical laboratory services with other medical activities. Instructs interns and residents in pathological and clinical pathological laboratory reports. Directs preparation of pathological diagnostic records. Serves as consultant on tissue and clinical pathology.

3. ★Specialty Qualifications:

3.1. Knowledge. Fulfillment of education requirement satisfies this requirement.

3.2. Education. For entry into this specialty, a Doctor of Medicine degree or a doctor of osteopathy degree from an approved school of medicine or osteopathy is mandatory.

3.3. Training. Not used.

3.4. Experience. For award of AFSC 44D3, completion of a residency or fellowship in pathology acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF, is mandatory. For award of AFSC 44D3X, completion of a suffix-specific fellowship program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF, is mandatory.

3.5. Other. The following are mandatory:

3.5.1. For entry and retention of AFSC 44D1, current enrollment in a pathology residency program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF. For entry and retention of AFSC 44D1X, current enrollment in a suffix-specific residency program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF.

3.5.2. For award and retention of AFSCs 44D3/4:

3.5.2.1. ★Must obtain and maintain clinical privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable (or be immediately eligible for said privileges if assigned to a non-clinical position).

3.5.2.2. A state license to practice medicine.

3.5.3. ★For retention of AFSCs 44D3/4, must not have a revocation of privileges or permanent and substantial reduction, restriction, or denial of privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable.

4. *Specialty Shredouts:

Suffix Portion of AFS to Which Related

A	Hematology
B	Cytology
C	Gynecology
D	Forensic
E	Neuropathology
F	Pediatric
G	Transfusion Medicine
K	Dermatology