ABPath CertLink® covers over 30 identified Practice Areas of Pathology. A percentage of questions from some Practice Areas are automatically assigned to a diplomate based on their primary and/or subspecialty certifications. Other Practice Areas are elective, allowing a diplomate to design their own practice-relevant assessment syllabus. To assist in the selection of elective Practice Areas, the topics covered within each are included in the lists below.

**Blood Bank/Transfusion Medicine (BBTM)**
- BBTM NOS, Other
- Transfusion Medicine Clinical Practice
- Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia
- Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria
- Bleeding from Congenital and Acquired Coagulation Defects and Antithrombotic Therapy
- Cell and Tissue Therapy
- HLA Antigens and Alleles
- Tissue Banking and Engineering
- Gene Therapy in Transfusion Medicine
- RBCs and RBC Components
- RBC Production, Metabolism and Preservation
- RBC Immunology and Compatibility Testing
- Blood Group Systems
- Anemia and Red Blood Cell Transfusion
- Apheresis
- Therapeutic Plasma Exchange
- Therapeutic Hemapheresis and Phlebotomy
- Hazards of Transfusion: Adverse Events
- Plasma Components and Derivatives
- Blood Donors and Blood Collection
- Quality, Legal and Regulatory Issues
- Surgery, Trauma, Transplant Patients
- Biovigilance & Transfusion-Related Immunomodulation
- Platelets
- Neutrophils
- Obstetric and Pediatric Patients
- Transplantation (including HPC)

**Breast (BR)**
- Breast NOS, Other
- Breast and Nipple Cytology
- Benign Breast Disease and Inflammatory
- Papillary Lesions
- Ductal and Lobular Carcinoma in Situ
- Malignant Breast Disease
- Mixed Epithelial and Stromal Tumors

**Cardiovascular (CV)**
- Cardiovascular NOS, Other
- Ischemic and Hypertensive Heart Disease
- Congenital Heart Disease
- Cardiomyopathies
- Cardiac Tumors
- Cardiac Valvular Lesions

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• Pericardial Diseases

**Chemical Pathology (CH)**

• Chem Path, NOS, Other
• Analytical Techniques
• Evaluation of Organ Function
• Muscle and Cardiac
• Liver
• GI and Pancreas
• Bone
• Tumor Markers
• Carbohydrates, Lipids, Proteins
• Electrolytes and Blood Gases

• Diseases of Blood Vessels

• Therapeutic Drugs and Toxicology
• Toxic Metals
• Kidney
• Disorders of Water, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Metabolism
• Endocrine
• Inborn Errors of Metabolism
• Hematopoietic and Immunologic Disorders
• Lab Management

**Clinical Informatics (CI)**

• Informatics NOS, Other
• Nature of Information
• Data Architectures and Management (databases)
• Coding and Tracking (barcode, SNOMED, etc.)
• Electronic Information Systems
• Qualities of Information Systems

• System Regulations (HIPAA)
• Computer Basics (hardware, software)
• Digital Imaging
• Project Management
• Lab Policies, Procedures, and Directives (“Document Control”)
• Inferences from Information

**Clinical Pathology, General (CPG)**

• Clinical Pathology NOS, Other
• Transfusion Medicine Clinical Practice
• RBCs and RBC Components
• Apheresis
• Hazards of Transfusion: Adverse Events
• Plasma Components and Derivatives
• Blood Donors and Blood Collection
• Platelets
• Transplantation (including HPC)
• Hematology Testing & Instrumentation
• RBC Disorders
• WBC Disorders, Non-neoplastic
• Infectious Disorders
• Hemepath NOS, Other
• H&T, Coag NOS, Other
• Myeloid Neoplasms
• Lymphoid Neoplasms
• Histiocytic/Dendritic Cell Neoplasms

• Informatics
• Coding and Tracking (barcode, SNOMED, etc.)
• Electronic Information Systems
• Digital Imaging
• Statistics, Decision Models, Big Data
• Quality Management
• Analytic Risks and Mitigation
• Patient Safety
• Employee and Environmental Safety; OSHA
• Human Resources
• Finance, NOS
• Laws and Regulations
• CLIA
• Proficiency Testing
• Professionalism and Ethics
• Bacteria
- Microbiology Management
- Bacteria
- Mycobacteria, Nocardia, Other Aerobic Actinomycetes
- Fungi NOS, Other
- Viruses & Prions NOS, Other
- Parasites, NOS, Other
- Microbiology Methods
- MGP NOS, Other

- Molecular Genetic Principles
- Molecular Techniques, Methods, Assays
- Ethical, Legal, and Regulatory Issues
- MGP Inherited Diseases
- MGP Solid Tumors
- MGP Hematopathology
- Pharmacogenetics and Genomics
- MGP Infectious Disease

**Cytopathology – nonGYN (CYN)**
- Cyto-nonGYN NOS, Other
- Body Fluids
- CNS and Eye
- Urinary Tract and Kidney Cytology
- Lung, Respiratory
- GI Cytology
- Liver, Biliary
- Pancreas
- Head & Neck; Salivary Gland FNA
- Thyroid and Parathyroid
- Lymph Node FNA
- Head and Neck, Oral
- Breast and Nipple Cytology
- Mediastinum and Retroperitoneum
- Kidneys and Adrenal
- Soft Tissue, Skin, Bone, Superficial Lumps Cytology
- Cyto Lab Admin, Mgmt, Techniques and Procedures

**Cytopathology – GYN (CYG)**
- Cyto-GYN NOS, Other
- Screening, Indications, Techniques, Adequacy
- Normal, NILM
- Infections
- Reactive/Reparative
- HPV
- Atypical Squamous Cells
- SIL and Squamous Cell Carcinoma
- Atypical Glandular Cells;
  Adenocarcinoma: Endometrial and Endocervical
- Management and Reporting Guidelines
- Lower Anogenital Tract (anal, vulvar)
- Female Genital (endometrium, upper tract)

**Dermatopathology (DP)**
- Dermatopathology NOS, Other
- Inflammatory Reaction Patterns
- The Epidermis
- The Dermis
- Normal Skin
- Artifacts
- Diseases of Cutaneous Appendages
- Cysts, Sinuses, and Pits
- Panniculitis
- Metabolic and Storage Diseases
- Infections and Infestations
- Benign Tumors
- Malignant Tumors
- Laboratory Techniques

**Endocrine (ENDO)**
- Endocrine NOS, Other
- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia
- Pituitary, Sella, Pineal
- Thyroid
- Non-neoplastic
- Neoplastic
- Parathyroid
- Reproductive; Ovary, Testis
- Adrenal
- Pancreas
- Paraganglioma
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Female Reproductive (FEM)</th>
<th>Forensic Pathology (FP)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Female Reproductive NOS, Other                                                          • Cervix</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cyto-GYN NOS, Other                                                                   • Uterine Corpus</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Gestational Trophoblastic Disease                                                      • Ovaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Placenta                                                                               • Fallopian Tube and Broad Ligament</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Vulva                                                                                  • Peritoneum</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Vagina</td>
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<td>• Cervix</td>
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<td>• Peritoneum</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GI - incl. liver, pancreas, biliary (GI)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• GI NOS, Other                                                                          • Liver Metabolic Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>• GI Cytology                                                                            • Viral Hepatitis (Hepatitis A, B, C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Esophagus                                                                              • Alcoholic Liver Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Stomach                                                                               • Infectious Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Small Intestine                                                                        • Liver Neoplasms</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Appendix                                                                              • Pancreas</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Colorectal                                                                            • Pancreas Non-neoplastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Anal Canal                                                                            • Pancreas Neoplastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Liver, NOS                                                                            • Gallbladder, Extrahepatic Biliary Tree</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>• Gallbladder, Extrahepatic Biliary Tree</td>
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<tr>
<th>Head &amp; Neck/Oral (HN)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Head and Neck NOS, Other                                                               • Nose, Paranasal Sinuses, and Nasopharynx</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Head &amp; Neck; Salivary Gland FNA                                                       • Larynx; Non-neoplastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Jaws and Oral Cavity, NOS                                                             • Larynx; Neoplastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Oral cavity, Non-neoplastic                                                           • Ear and Temporal Bone</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Oral cavity, Neoplastic                                                               • Eye and Ocular Adnexa</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Salivary Glands; Nonneoplastic</td>
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<td>• Larynx; Non-neoplastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Eye and Ocular Adnexa</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hematology – Blood, BM (HE)</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Hematology NOS, Other                                                                  • Normal Hematopoiesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Hematology Testing &amp; Instrumentation                                                    • RBC Disorders</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Hemoglobinopathies                                                                     • WBC Disorders, Non-neoplastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cell Morphology                                                                        • Infectious Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Flow Cytometry                                                                         • Fluid Specimens</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Molecular and Cytogenetic Testing                                                     • H&amp;T, Coag NOS, Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>• H&amp;T, Coag NOS, Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Myeloid Neoplasms</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
• Lymphoid Neoplasms

Hematopathology – LN, Spleen (HP)
• Hemopath NOS, Other
• Lymph Node, Non-neoplastic
• Spleen
• Thymus
• B & T-lymphoblastic Leukemia/Lymphoma
• Mature B-cell Neoplasms

• Mature T- and NK-cell Neoplasms
• Hodgkin Lymphoma
• Plasma Cell Neoplasms, Paraprotein Disorders, Amyloidosis
• Histiocytic/Dendritic Cell Neoplasms
• Metastatic Neoplasms
• Lymph Node FNA

Hemostasis & Thrombosis/Coagulation (COAG)
• H&T, Coag NOS, Other
• Methods, Instrumentation
• Coagulation and Fibrinolysis Testing
• Platelet Testing
• Thrombophilia Testing
• Coagulation and Fibrinolytic Disorders

• Platelet Disorders and von Willebrand Disease
• Thrombophilic Disorders
• Antiplatelet and Anticoagulant Drugs and Monitoring

Infectious Diseases (ID)
• Infectious Diseases NOS, Other
• Safety (Bio Safety); Risk Management
• Compliance and Regulations
• Bacteria
• Stains and Direct Examination
• Aerobic Bacteria
• Anaerobic Bacteria
• Mycoplasmas and Ureaplasma
• Spirochetes
• Intracellular Bacteria
• Mycobacteria
• Nocardia and Other Aerobic Actinomycetes
• Fungi NOS, Other
• Fungi-Stains and Direct Examination
• Yeasts and Yeast-Like Fungi
• Hyaline Septate Molds
• Dimorphic Fungi

• Zygomycetes
• Dematiaceous Fungi
• Microsporidia
• Viruses & Prions NOS, Other
• Herpesviridae (HSV, VZV, EBV, CMV, HHV6, 7, and 8)
• Hepadnaviridae (HBV and HDV)
• Papillomaviruses
• Retroviruses (HIV, HTLV)
• Prions
• Parasites, NOS, Other
• Protozoa
• Nematodes (Round Worms)
• Trematodes (Flukes)
• Cestodes (Tapeworms)
• Insects, Arthropods, and Arachnids
• Microbiology Methods
• Molecular Methods

Lab Management/Medical Director/Patient Safety (LM_MD)
• Lab Management NOS, Other
• Informatics
• Coding and Tracking (e.g., SNOMED, barcodes, etc.)
• Electronic Information Systems, LIS, EMR
• Statistics, Decision Models, Big Data
• Quality Management

• Quality
• Safety
• Patient Safety
• Employee and Environmental Safety; OSHA
• Risk Monitoring and Mitigation
• Human Resources
• Employees
• Customers
• Suppliers and Supplies
• Finance, NOS
• Management of Expenses, Revenue, Capital
• Major Payors
• Business Strategy
• Laws and Regulations
• CLIA

• CAP
• Proficiency Testing
• Joint Commission
• Physician Relations (laws ie Stark and anti-kickback)
• Regulation of Information and Information Mgmt (HIPPA)
• Professionalism and Ethics

**Male Genital (MG)**

• Male Genital NOS, Other
• Prostate Nonneoplastic & Inflammatory Disorders
• Adenocarcinoma of Prostate, Acinar (usual) Type; PIN
• Gleason Grading
• Mimickers of Prostate Cancer
• Therapy Effects
• Prostate Carcinoma Variants

• Seminal Vesicles
• Testis NOS, Other
• Testicular and Paratesticular Tumors
• Germ Cell Tumors
• Sex Cord-Stromal Tumors
• Hematopoietic Tumors
• Penis NOS, Other
• Penis Neoplasms

**Medical Microbiology (MMB)**

• Med Micro NOS, Other
• Management and Informatics
• Quality Control
• Safety (Bio Safety), Risk Management
• Supplies, Reagents, Stains
• Compliance and Regulations
• Collection, Handling, & Processing of Specimens
• Media
• Stains and Direct Examination
• Identification Methods, Instrumentation
• Antibacterial, Antifungal, Antimycobacterial Agents
• Bacterial, Fungal, Mycobacterial Susceptibility Testing
• Mechanisms of Resistance
• Aerobic Bacteria
• Gram-Positive Aerobic Bacteria
• Gram-Negative Aerobic Bacteria
• Anaerobic Bacteria
• Mycoplasmas and Ureaplasma
• Spirochetes
• Intracellular Bacteria

• Mycobacteria, Nocardia, Other Aerobic Actinomycetes
• Fungi NOS, Other
• Fungi Stains and Direct Examination
• Yeasts and Yeast-Like Fungi
• Hyaline Septate Molds
• Dimorphic Fungi
• Zygomycetes
• Dematiaceous Fungi
• Microsporidia
• Virus Identification, Resistance, Susceptibility, Antiviral Agents
• Viruses, NOS, Other
• Herpesviridae (HSV, VZV, EBV, CMV, HHV6, 7, and 8)
• Hepadnaviridae (HBV and HDV)
• Prions
• Parasites NOS, Other
• Protozoa
• Nematodes (Round Worms)
• Trematodes (Flukes)
• Cestodes (Tapeworms)
• Insects, Arthropods, and Arachnids
• Molecular Methods

**Medical Renal (MR)**

• Medical Renal NOS
• Developmental/Congenital Lesions

• Nephritic Syndrome
• Nephrotic Syndrome
• Monoclonal Gammopathy Associated Renal Disease
• Tubulointerstitial Disease
• Vascular Diseases
• Renal Transplantation

**Molecular Genetic Pathology – AP emphasis (MGP_AP)**

- MGP NOS, Other
- Normal Structure and Function
- Mechanisms of Alteration/Types of Defect
- Inherited and Somatic Defects
- Molecular Techniques, Methods, Assays
- Assay Performance, Validation, QC, QA, PT
- Ethical, Legal, and Regulatory Issues
- MGP Inherited Diseases
- Inherited Cancer Syndromes
- MGP Solid Tumors
- MGP Hematopathology
- Pharmacogenetics and Genomics
- MGP Infectious Disease
- Identity Testing
- Histocompatibility
- Informatics

**Molecular Genetic Pathology – CP emphasis (MGP_CP)**

- MGP NOS, Other
- Normal Structure and Function
- Mechanisms of Alteration/Types of Defect
- Inherited and Somatic Defects
- Molecular Techniques, Methods, Assays
- Assay Performance, Validation, QC, QA, PT
- Ethical, Legal, and Regulatory Issues
- Indications for Testing
- MGP Inherited Diseases
- Inherited Cancer Syndromes
- MGP Hematopathology
- Pharmacogenetics and Genomics
- MGP Infectious Disease
- Viruses
- Bacteria
- Fungi/Yeast and Parasites
- Prion Disorders
- Identity Testing
- Histocompatibility
- Informatics

**Neuropathology - incl. Neuromuscular (NP)**

- Neuropathology NOS, Other
- Neuroanatomy
- Pathologic Reactions in Neurons and Axons; Inclusions
- Pathologic Reactions of Astrocytes, Oligodendrocytes, Ependymal Cells, Microglia
- Molecular Techniques, Staining, Special Microscopy
- Developmental Neuropathology
- Fetal and Neonatal Hypoxic-ischemic Lesions
- Perinatal Hemorrhages
- Malformations
- Neuronal Migration Defects
- Dysgenetic Syndromes
- Hydrocephalus
- Metabolic/Environmental/iatrogenic
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy
- Epilepsy
- Vascular Disorders
- Trauma
- Infectious/Inflammatory Disease
- Demyelinating Diseases
- Complications of Systemic Disorders
- Aging and Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Alzheimer Disease, NOS
- Tauopathies
- Neoplasms NOS, Other
- Astrocytomas
- Oligodendroglial Tumors
- Ependymal and Choroid Plexus Tumors
- Neuronal and Mixed Neuronal-glial Tumors
- Pineal Region Tumors
- Embryonal Tumors
- Cranial and Paraspinal Nerve Tumors
- Tumors of the Meninges/Meningothelial Cells
- Mesenchymal (Nonmeningothelial) Tumors
- Lymphoma and Hematopoietic tumors
- Sellar Region Tumors
- Germ Cell Tumors
- Cysts
- Metastatic Tumors
- Familial Tumor Predisposition Syndromes
- Skeletal Muscle
- Inflammatory Myopathies
- Metabolic Diseases
- Muscular Dystrophies
- Congenital Myopathies
- Peripheral Nerve
- Inflammatory Neuropathies
- Ophthalmic Pathology

**Pediatric Pathology (PP)**
- Pediatric Path NOS, Other
- Perinatal; Placental-maternal-fetal Relationships
- Fetal, Neonatal Pathology; Fetal Demise
- Genetic, Metabolic, Inherited Disorders
- Cardiovascular System
- Respiratory System and Mediastinum
- Central Nervous System; Eye and Ear
- Skin
- Alimentary Tract
- Hepatobiliary System and Pancreas
- Kidney and Urinary System
- Endocrine System, Excluding Ovary and Testis
- Hematopoietic System (e.g., BM, LNs, Thymus, Spleen)
- Breast
- Female Reproductive System
- Male Reproductive System
- Soft Tissue, Nerve, Muscle, and Bone Management and Informatics
- Forensic Pathology

**Placenta (PLA)**
- Placenta NOS, Other
- Normal Anatomy and Histology
- Membrane Pathology
- Umbilical Cord Pathology
- Fetal Vessel Pathology
- Villous Pathology
- Maternal Intervillous Space Pathology
- Basal Plate Pathology
- Placental Tumors
- Implantation Pathology
- Multifetal Pregnancy
- Gestational Trophoblastic Diseases
- Maternal Disorders Affecting Pregnancy
- Maternal Complications of Pregnancy
- Fetal Loss/IUFD

**Pulmonary; Mediastinum (PUL)**
- Pulmonary, Mediastinum NOS, Other
- Cytology
- Normal Anatomy
- Non-neoplastic
- Neoplastic Benign
- Neoplastic Malignant
- Metastatic
- Pleura
- Mesothelioma
- Mediastinum
- Thymus
- Germ Cell Tumors
- Lymphoma
- Other Mediastinum

**Soft Tissue & Bone (ST)**
- Soft Tissue & Bone NOS, Other
- Soft Tissue, Skin, Bone, Superficial Lumps Cytology
- Medical Neuromuscular Diseases
- Fibrous/Myofibroblastic Tumors
- Adipose Tumors
- Smooth Muscle Tumors
- Skeletal Muscle Tumors
- Vascular Tumors
- Perivascular Tumors
- Cartilaginous Soft Tissue Tumors
- Benign Soft Tissue Tumors of Uncertain Type
- Malignant Soft Tissue Tumors of Uncertain Type
- Bone and Joint, NOS, Other
- Non-neoplastic Bone
- Neoplastic Bone
- Osteogenic Tumors
- Chondroid Tumors
- Joints

**Transplant Pathology (TRANS)**

- Transplant Path NOS, Other
- Hematopoietic Progenitor Cells
- HLA Matching
- Tissue Banks
- Cardiac Transplantation
- Cardiac Allograft Rejection
- Liver Transplantation
- Small Intestine Transplantation
- GVHD
- Pancreas
- Lung Transplantation
- Renal Transplantation
- Skin, Face Transplantation

**Urinary Tract, Kidney (UT)**

- UT, Kidney NOS, Other
- Urinary Tract and Kidney Cytology
- Developmental/Congenital Lesions
- Vascular Lesions
- Adult Renal Tumors
- Pediatric Renal Tumors
- Non-neoplastic
- Neoplastic