The mission of the American Board of Pathology, a member of the American Board of Medical Specialties, is to serve the public and advance the profession of pathology by setting certification standards and promoting lifelong competency of pathologists.

Don’t forget to complete your ABPath CertLink (ABPCL) questions by year end.

ABPath CertLink®
Season’s Greetings
New Trustees

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Greetings Diplomates and Colleagues,

It has been a busy year at the American Board of Pathology. The year began with my transition to CEO, and although I served as a Trustee for twelve years, there was much to learn and to do. Space precludes me from sharing all of our initiatives, so I’ve selected a few to highlight. We at the Board have deeply and thoughtfully considered the portion of our mission that addresses “…promoting lifelong competency of pathologists.” We believe that this includes our nascent pathologists in training, as well as our diplomates, and I am excited to share initiatives that serve both groups.

Medical school training has changed, and it is rare to find a traditional histology course complete with a laboratory session with microscopes and glass slides. Although this medical school curricular change may not be detrimental to the student matching in Pediatrics or Orthopedic Surgery, it significantly limits exposure to important foundational knowledge and skills for students entering Pathology. The Board, therefore, has undertaken an initiative to build a Histology Primer for trainees entering Pathology residency. We encourage Pathology Residency Program Directors to incorporate this into their onboarding experience in whatever manner best suits their program. This primer will be available free of charge, and it is our hope that medical students will use it, too. Should they use it, we will not miss the opportunity to introduce those students to the field of Pathology as a career choice.

This year Dr. Ritu Nayar, our incoming President, and I were pleased to participate in a joint ABMS/ACGME symposium concerning competency-based medical education (CBME). The Board has long supported a multidisciplinary group investigating (and promoting) the use of entrustable professional activities (EPA) for CBME. We are excited to read the manuscript(s) that are currently being generated from their pilot feasibility studies. As you know, the COVID pandemic compelled the Board to use remote assessment options that included virtual microscopy. This transition to virtual microscopy and the Board’s interest in CBME has stimulated a pilot initiative. The Board is building a voluntary, formative, competency-based, in-training assessment pilot for residents. In short, this will be a virtual sign-out experience, wherein the trainee can log into the Board website and test their skills in virtual sign-out. This experience will give the trainee the opportunity to test their own ability to “do” (See Miller’s Pyramid) in a completely safe (i.e. formative) space.

We have not forgotten our diplomates! The ABPath CertLink portion of the Continuing Certification Program has been a great success, but we are working hard to make it better. Foremost, we are working hard to streamline our overall Continuing Certification processes to make participation easier than ever. Additionally, we are expanding our ABPath CertLink Test Development and Advisory Committees with more content experts to enhance the items delivered. Our goal is to make Continuing Certification an experience that is highly valued and important for our diplomates.

Yes, we’ve been busy, and now it is time to deliver. I’ve been asked several times, “How do I get more involved with the Board?” There are many ways and help is needed with these and other initiatives. Read further in this newsletter to discover how you can contribute.

Gary W. Procop, MD, MS
CEO, American Board of Pathology
Professor of Pathology
The American Board of Pathology (ABPath) is pleased to announce the ABPath Board of Trustees and Executive Committee for 2023.

President ........................................ Ritu Nayar, MD, Chicago, IL
Vice President ............................... Barbara Sampson, MD, PhD, New York, NY
Secretary ................................. Kathleen G. Beavis, MD, Chicago, IL
Treasurer ................................. Mohiedean Ghofrani, MD, MBA, Vancouver, WA
Immediate Past President .......... Jeffrey D. Goldstein, MD, Los Angeles, CA

Congratulations to the Trustees who were re-elected to additional terms:
- Edward R. Ashwood, MD elected to a 4th term
- Mohiedean Ghofrani, MD, MBA elected to 3rd term
- Barbara A. Sampson, MD, PhD elected to a 3rd term

In addition to the officers, Trustees of the American Board of Pathology are:
- Edward R. Ashwood, MD, Aurora, CO
- James R. Cook, MD, PhD, Cleveland, OH
- Constance M. Filling, EdD, Washington, DC
- Mark K. Fung, MD, PhD, Burlington, VT
- Eric F. Glassy, MD, San Pedro, CA
- Julie D. Kingery, MD, Gainesville, FL
- Jennifer Laudadio, MD, Little Rock, AR
- Matthew J. Wasco, MD, Ann Arbor, MI

Thank you to the Trustees that completed the last year of their term on the Board in 2022. The many years of sharing their time and expertise have greatly impacted the evolution of board certification in pathology.
- Susan A. Fuhrman, MD, Columbus, OH
- Karen L. Kaul, MD, PhD, Evanston, IL
- Steven H. Swerdlow, MD, Pittsburgh, PA
The Trustees of the American Board of Pathology are pleased to announce the election of three new members to the Board of Trustees with terms beginning on January 1, 2023. The new Trustees have expertise in Molecular Genetic Pathology, Hematopathology, and Clinical Pathology in community/private practice.

Dr. James Cook is the Hematopathology Section Head at Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, and Professor of Pathology at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Cook is a recent President of the Society for Hematopathology and has served on multiple committees for the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology and the Association for Molecular Pathology. He has also previously served on the ABPath’s Hematopathology Test Development and Advisory Committee (TDAC).

Dr. Cook is a graduate of the MD/PhD program at Washington University in St. Louis. He completed his residency training at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri and fellowship training in Hematopathology at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Cook is board certified in Anatomic Pathology and Hematopathology.

Until recently, Dr. Julie Kingery was a clinical pathologist and Associate Medical Director of a high-volume reference laboratory for Kaiser Permanente in Northern California. Prior to joining Kaiser, she was a staff pathologist at the Portland (OR) Veteran’s Administration Hospital. Recently, Dr. Kingery accepted a position as Director of Clinical Pathology in the Department of Pathology, Immunology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Florida College of Medicine. She has been involved in national professional societies throughout her career serving on committees for the College of American Pathologists and the American Society of Clinical Pathology. She also served on the ABPath’s Continuing Certification Advisory Committee.

Dr. Kingery earned a B.S. in Biology at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA; graduated medical school and completed residency training in clinical pathology at Loma Linda University School of Medicine. Following residency, Dr. Kingery completed a molecular genetic pathology fellowship at the Oregon Health & Sciences University and a medical microbiology fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Kingery is board certified in Clinical Pathology, Medical Microbiology, and Molecular Genetic Pathology.

MEET OUR NEW TRUSTEES

James R. Cook, MD, PhD

Julie D. Kingery, MD
Dr. Jennifer Laudadio is Professor and Chair in the Department of Pathology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) in Little Rock, AR. She is a recipient of the Aubrey J. Hough Jr, MD, Distinguished Chair in Pathology. She serves as Director of the Laboratory and Pathology Service Line for UAMS Health. Dr. Laudadio has experience as a Pathology Residency Program Director and is a member of the UAMS Graduate Medical Education Committee. She is a Molecular Pathology Section Editor for Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and served on the ABPath Molecular Genetic Pathology and the ABPath CertLink Clinical Pathology TDACs. She has served on numerous committees for the College of American Pathologists and the Association for Molecular Pathology and is a former President of the College of American Pathologists Foundation and served as ex-officio on the CAP Board of Governors.

Dr. Laudadio earned a B.A. in Chemistry from Wake Forest University and her M.D. from the Medical College of Georgia. She completed an Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency at the Medical University of South Carolina and Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship at Oregon Health and Sciences University. Dr. Laudadio is board certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and Molecular Genetics.
Dr. Edward Ashwood, ABPath Immediate Past President, received the College of American Pathologists (CAP) Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions and service to the CAP Laboratory Improvement Programs at the 2022 CAP Annual Meeting.

Dr. Eric Glassy was recognized at the 2022 CAP Annual Meeting for his service on the CAP Board of Governors.

ABPath CEO Dr. Gary Procop and Trustee Dr. Eric Glassy presented at the International Academy of Pathology World Congress IAP2022. The World Congress is one of the world’s largest exchanges of educational advancements.
MEET OUR STAFF

Mario Levesque
Senior Software Developer

We would like to introduce Mario Levesque, ABPath’s Senior Software Developer. Mario joined the ABPath staff as a Software Developer in February 2019. He is responsible for IT support matters for the ABPath including software updates, server maintenance, website and software development for the different applications related to our ongoing exams throughout the year.

Mario was born and raised in Mont-Joli, Quebec, Canada. He graduated from High school in 1983 and attended the Royal Military College in Kingston Ontario. He graduated in 1988 with a Bachelor’s degree in Engineering and received a commission as an officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force as an aerospace engineer. Mario was selected to further his education at the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey California while serving on exchange with the US Navy where he graduated with a Master’s in Engineering in 1993.

He eventually retired from the Canadian Air Force and began a new career in software engineering when he moved to the US in 1998 and to Tampa, Florida in 2003.

Mario has been very happy working at ABPath where he feels he has the opportunity to work with wonderful people in an ever-changing IT environment since the beginning of COVID-19.

“Much has changed over the last few years in the way we administer exams. It has offered some challenges migrating over our systems to the Internet and many of our applications to the cloud but all in all, it has been a very positive experience to learn and succeed alongside my co-workers.”

During his free time, he enjoys working on home improvement projects and spending time with family and his children.

The warm climate and sunshine are what attracted Mario to move to Florida.
Kasey Williamson
ABPath CertLink Coordinator

Kasey Williamson is the ABPath CertLink® Coordinator at the American Board of Pathology. She joined the Board in 2016 as a part-time Administrative Assistant, quickly taking on the new ABPath CertLink (ABPCL) longitudinal assessment initiative. From pre-pilot to the current phase, Kasey has contributed to the design, development, and implementation of the program, which has recently replaced the traditional Continuing Certification (CC) exam.

Because of the overwhelming success of ABPCL, with nearly 11,000 diplomates participating, Kasey’s efforts have most recently been focused on the item development process. Along with coordinating the ABPCL Test Development and Advisory Committees, she also manages the ABPCL Volunteer Item Writers team.

Before coming to the Board, Kasey worked primarily in medical marketing, office administration, and event planning. Married in early 2022, she and her husband, Antonio, are both rare second-generation Tampa natives. They are currently enjoying their honeymoon phase while raising their 2-year-old American Bully, Sy. In her spare time, she practices yoga, enjoys cooking for her family and friends, tends to her plant babies, and loves to travel. She is a proud aunt to three sweet nephews and stepmom to a beautiful 15-year-old.
BOARD ACTIONS

Subspecialty Training Requirement for Non-ABPath Diplomates

The ABPath is pleased to announce a change in the training requirement for physicians certified by other ABMS member boards who would like to be certified in Blood Bank Transfusion Medicine, Medical Microbiology, Chemical Pathology, or Hematopathology by the ABPath.

Diplomates certified by an ABMS member board other than ABPath must only complete one year (12 months) of ACGME-accredited training in the subspecialties listed above to be eligible for the subsequent subspecialty exam. This policy supersedes the previous policy that required two years of subspecialty training for non-ABPath diplomates. The requirement for pathologists certified in AP and/or CP by ABPath remains unchanged at 12 months of ACGME-accredited training.

The change was approved at the ABPath Fall 2022 Board of Trustees meeting and will be reflected in the 2023 Booklet of Information.

ABPATH NEWS

New Members of the Resident and Fellow Advisory Committee

ABPath selected five pathology residents to join the ABPath Resident and Fellow Advisory Committee. The purpose of the committee is to provide feedback and suggestions to the ABPath for improving the board certification process. The committee is working on projects that will be used to support future pathology trainees across the country. ABPath CEO Gary W. Procop, MD, MS is the chair of the committee.

The new members joining the committee are:
- Mischa Covington, MD
- Joshua Davis, MD
- Maryam Foroughi, MD
- Savanah Gisriel, MD
- Chukwuemeka Oriala, MD

They will join returning members:
- Brian Cox, MD
- Hanadi El Achi, MD
- Neda Wick, MD
2021 Annual Report
In June 2022, the ABPath Annual Report for 2021 was released. The report includes Board highlights, historical examination results, and a financial report as well as a listing of the newest diplomates certified in 2021.

New ABPath Payment Site
ABPath is now accepting online credit card payments for verification requests and requests for replacement certificates. From the ABPath website, users will be directed to a new secure ABPath payment site to complete the request forms and submit payment. Click here for more details.

ABPath CertLink® (ABPCL) Test Development and Advisory Committees (TDACs)
ABPath is expanding its membership of the ABPCL TDACs due to the overwhelming success of ABPCL, the online longitudinal assessment program for the Continuing Certification Program.

Committee members are subject matter experts in the various disciplines of pathology who are responsible for reviewing and writing questions to be used in ABPCL.

Individuals interested in an appointment should submit a letter of interest and current curriculum vitae to kasey@abpath.org.

Board-certified pathologists with expertise in the following areas are preferred:
• Neuropathology/Cardiovascular/Forensic Pathology
• Endocrine
• Pulmonary
Drs. Johnson and Riddle Named to the 2022 Power List of The Pathologist Magazine

Congratulations to ABPath CEO Emeritus Dr. Rebecca Johnson and ABPath Test Development and Advisory Committee (TDAC) member Dr. Nicole Riddle for being named to The Pathologist’s Power List for 2022. Congratulations to all on the list!

ABPath Research Publications for 2022

ABPath Psychometrician Tyler Sandersfeld, PhD and ABPath COO Ty McCarthy presented the poster “When to Take the Primary Certification Exam: Sooner or Later?” at the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Annual Meeting. Other contributors were ABPath Trustee Steven H. Swerdlow, MD; Mario Levesque and ABPath CEO Gary W. Procop, MD, MS. The annual meeting was in September 2022 in Chicago, Illinois.

View and Download the Poster

https://shrtm.nu/L9tb
Our Cooperating Societies

ABPath has fifteen Cooperating Societies that we collaborate with to identify and address issues of importance to the profession of pathology. Through these valuable relationships, our Cooperating Societies support diplomates in their life-long learning and improvement in practice, their participation in Continuing Certification, and documenting their participation in educational and quality assessment activities.

The ABPath would like to especially thank the APC/PRODS, ASCP, CAP, and USCAP for their support of ABPath exhibit booths at their annual meetings.

LIST OF SOCIETIES

Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists
American Association of Neuropathologists
American Medical Association Pathology Section Council
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Investigative Pathology
American Society of Cytopathology
Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies
Association for Molecular Pathology
Association of Directors of Anatomic and Surgical Pathology
Association of Pathology Chairs
College of American Pathologists
National Association of Medical Examiners
Society for Hematopathology
Society for Pediatric Pathology
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology
American Association of Neuropathologists (AANP): Newest Cooperating Society Member

ABPath welcomes our newest cooperating society member, the American Association of Neuropathologists, Inc. (AANP). The AANP is a professional society of neuropathologists, composed of physicians and scientists involved in research, training, and the clinical practice of neuropathology whose mission is to advance the study of diseases that affect the nervous system, and to minimize suffering through discovery, education, and the delivery of patient-centered clinical care.

We look forward to working with AANP to support our diplomates.

ASCP 100th Anniversary

ABPath would like to congratulate the ASCP on the momentous occasion of its 100th anniversary. The highly successful ASCP Choosing Wisely programs turned 10 years old. We congratulate ASCP and the ASCP Effective Test Utilization Steering Committee on their many recommendations and the impact in advancing appropriate test utilization for improving patient care.

Choosing Wisely is an initiative of the American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation designed to promote conversations between clinicians and patients by helping patients choose care that is supported by evidence and is truly necessary. Each year ASCP compiles the most relevant testing recommendations and protocol improvements recommended by leaders in the pathology community and vetted by the ASCP Effective Test Utilization Steering Committee. More information about this program can be found at here.

We congratulate ASCP on these special anniversaries!

https://shrtm.nu/Fbwl
ABPath volunteers contribute their time and expertise in support of our mission and promote excellence in the practice of pathology. We thank them for their selfless dedication.

View a complete list of current ABPath committee members here.

2022 Test Development and Advisory Committees
The TDACs are responsible for developing and reviewing the ABPath certification exam questions that assess a physician’s knowledge, judgment, and skills in order to provide high-quality care to patients. Each committee is chaired by an ABPath Trustee and consists of recognized subject matter experts who are leaders in their field. They spend many hours throughout the year in service to our profession and certification programs.

Continuing Certification (CC) Advisory Committee
The Continuing Certification (CC) Advisory Committee is made up of 13 volunteer diplomates with diverse backgrounds, specialties, and experience and is chaired by an ABPath Trustee, currently Dr. Eric Glassy. It is responsible for advising the ABPath Board of Trustees for continuous evaluation and improvement of Continuing Certification from a diplomate’s perspective. Each member serves three years on the Committee.

Resident and Fellow Advisory Committee
The Committee is made up of eight pathology residents and fellows with the purpose of providing feedback and suggestions for improvement to ABPath about the board certification process and ways to best support pathology residents and fellows in the certification journey. The committee is chaired by ABPath CEO Dr. Gary W. Procop.

ABPath CertLink® (ABPCL) Item Writers
The ABPCL Item Writers share their expertise by writing questions (items) for the ABPath CertLink longitudinal assessment. Their contributions have helped to enrich and refine the program. We thank them for all they do to support professional development in pathology. If you are a board-certified pathologist and would like to find out more email kasey@abpath.org.
Diplomates Certified in 2022—Congratulations on your board certification! An email was sent on November 29 to new diplomates certified in 2022 introducing them to the CC Program including ABPath CertLink (ABPCL). The email was sent to the primary email address we have on file in PATHway.

For more information about the CC Program visit the Newly Certified page on the ABPath website.

CC Program Reminders:
To be successful in the CC Program you must continuously participate in ABPCL and complete the biennial reporting forms.

- Reporting Forms—The CC Program Reporting Form is due on Dec 31, 2022 for those certified in an even year.
- Annual Fee—The CC Program fee is due annually. Pay your annual fee of $150 by December 31, 2022. For those certified in 2022, your first annual fee will be due in December 2023.
- CME credits for ABPCL—you may claim credits for ABPCL participation in 2021 until March 31, 2023. For more information, visit the ABPath website and see the Claiming CME Credits for ABPCL Participation section.

If you have questions or need assistance with ABPCL, contact us at certLink@abpath.org.
Primary Exam Applications
Applications for the Spring 2023 Primary exam are due by Jan 15, 2023. Residents should submit applications as early as possible. Once an application has been submitted by a resident, the Program Director (PD) must approve the application and the PD evaluation must be completed before the application can be submitted for final review/approval by the ABPath Credentials Committee.

This pdf document has helpful reminders to share with your residents who are submitting applications for the Spring 2023 Primary exam.

Program Performance Reports
The Program Performance Reports are released in January 2023 for residents and fellows who took exams in 2022. The reports include summarized information from the previous seven years. Please review program performance reports and check for inaccuracies. If inaccuracies are noted, please contact mary@abpath.org immediately.

Performance Reports cannot be corrected after Feb. 28.

ABPath Booklet of Information
We encourage all program directors, program coordinators and residents to review the Booklet each year for the most up-to-date policies and requirements for board certification.

Resident Orientation Presentation
ABPath created a PowerPoint presentation to provide a basic overview of board certification through ABPath. We encourage Program Directors to present it to their residents during their training. The presentation is available in three formats—PDF, YouTube, and PowerPoint (Please email us to request a PowerPoint version at Mary@abpath.org). Complete certification requirement details can be found in the Booklet of Information.
ABPath recently attended the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Annual Meeting in September in Chicago, IL. The theme was Transforming Certification for Better Care and we were pleased to have Ty McCarthy, ABPath Chief Operating Officer, alongside Ryan Howard and Kyle Miller presenting “Continuing Recertification: A Program Design That Your Members Will Love.” The presentation provided an overview of ABPath CertLink and how it meets the needs of continuing certification in an evolving medical landscape.

Psychometrician Tyler Sandersfeld, PhD also presented the poster “When to Take the Primary Certification Exam: Sooner or Later?” (see above for the poster).

To see other ABMS news and updates visit the ABMS news site here.
The ABPath uses criterion-referenced scoring for its certification examinations. Setting the criterion standard for each exam is performed every 3-5 years.

The number of candidates passing the examinations may not match the number of candidates certified for several reasons:

1. Some AP/CP candidates, both first-time takers and repeaters, take only one portion (either AP or CP) of the examination. These candidates are not certified until both AP and CP are passed.
2. Certified candidates include AP/CP candidates who passed either the AP or CP examination previously and requested single certification during the reporting year.
3. Certified candidates also include candidates who passed the examinations in a previous year but did not provide documentation of licensure or other required information until the reporting year.

See the ABPath Website for examination information.

### Primary Certification Examinations

#### 2022 Primary Examination

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<td>CP</td>
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#### 5-Year Certified Report

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#### Primary Exam Pass Rates (% Pass = Spring exam pass rate)

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<td>89</td>
<td>82*</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
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<td>92</td>
<td>85*</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>94</td>
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*New criterion standard applied*
## Subspecialty Certification Examinations

### 2022 Subspecialty Examinations

<table>
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<th>Subspecialty</th>
<th>Total Candidates</th>
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<tr>
<td>FPClinMB*</td>
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*FPClinMB = Focus Practice Designation-Clinical Microbiology

**2022 Clinical Informatics exam results have not been released at the time of publishing.

### 5-Year Certified Report

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subspecialty</th>
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<th>2021</th>
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<td>CH</td>
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*FPClinMB = Focus Practice Designation-Clinical Microbiology

**2022 Clinical Informatics exam results have not been released at the time of publishing.
## Subspecialty Examinations Pass Rates

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<th>Subspecialty</th>
<th>2018 % Pass</th>
<th>2019 % Pass</th>
<th>2020 % Pass</th>
<th>2021 % Pass</th>
<th>2022 % Pass</th>
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*New criterion standard applied

**FPClinMB = Focus Practice Designation-Clinical Microbiology
Continuing Certification Examinations

Continuing Certification Participation Statistics

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## EXAMINATION DATES FOR 2023

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<th>Exams (Pearson VUE)</th>
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<td><strong>Anatomic / Clinical Pathology</strong></td>
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<td>Spring</td>
<td>May 15 - June 3</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<td><strong>Subspecialty</strong></td>
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<td>Pediatric Pathology</td>
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<td>Clinical Informatics (Pearson VUE)</td>
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## FEEDBACK WELCOME

Have an idea for the Newsletter? Want to contribute to improving ABPath CertLink®?

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Make your certification—and your voice—count!
Contact Chief Operating Officer Ty McCarthy coo@abpath.org
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