

Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (Mohs) Slide Review Protocol

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I. Preface

U.S.-based programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), and international programs approved by the American College of Mohs Surgery (ACMS) and the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) are expected to produce high quality slides.

Frozen section slides for Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (Mohs) must be reviewed and approved, as part of an ongoing quality assurance process, by an appropriately qualified external organization or equivalent academic medical center's Quality Assessment and Control program that has experience reviewing the unique method of histology slide preparation required to perform Mohs surgery. Quality Assurance/Quality Control must include formal evaluation and written comments regarding slide quality, to include tissue thickness, completeness of epidermal edges, quality of sections of fat, staining quality, lack of holes in sections, accuracy of staining and mapping of section.

II. International ACMS-approved Fellowship Programs (New & Existing)

Slide review is a required component of the international ACMS MSDO Director application process. Upon a positive application review, the prospective program will be required to submit slides to the ACMS Slide Quality Review Committee.

An existing international ACMS-approved MSDO fellowship program may be placed on probation due to slide quality deficiencies identified during a site visit. The program will be required to submit slides to the ACMS Slide Quality Review Committee.

In both instances, the process for slide review is as follows:

- The fellowship Program Director will be asked to submit slides and maps to the Slide Quality Review Committee (typically on a quarterly basis, from random dates selected by ACMS office staff).
- Each set of slides will be reviewed by three members of the Slide Quality Review Committee. A standard form will be filled out by each reviewer for each slide set, reviewing the following criteria:
 - Slide Labeling
 - Thickness of Section
 - Epidermis
 - Dermis
 - Subcutaneous Tissue
 - Artifacts
 - Stain quality
 - Mapping and Inking
 - Diagnostic Proficiency
- After the slide set has been reviewed by three members of the Slide Quality Review Committee, the Fellowship Training Committee will review the three forms via conference call or during an in-person meeting. If areas that need improvement are identified during this meeting, the Director will be notified of the areas needing improvement via letter shortly after the recommendations from that discussion are approved by the Site & Slide Inspection Review Board (SISRB) Board of Directors.
- If problems continue to arise in sections after one year and no quantifiable improvement is shown, the training Program will be allowed to complete the current fellow's training, but will

not be allowed to take a fellow in the subsequent training year. During this time, the Director will continue to submit slides as cited above.

- If problems continue to arise in sections after the second year of review and no quantifiable improvement is shown, the training Program will be removed from the approved list of fellowship Programs.
- Slide review may be discontinued if the slides show improvement and one (or more if deemed necessary) review concludes with all three reviewers deeming the slides acceptable. If this occurs during the probationary period, the FTC will recommend to the Board that the Program Director receive full five-year approval. Upon Board approval of this recommendation, the Director will be notified of such approval and may discontinue submitting slides at that time.

III. Slide Review Requests

The Director of an existing ACMS, ACGME, or ACD Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (Mohs) fellowship training program may request a slide review, and must contact the ACMS to initiate a request.

The review will be conducted by the ACMS Slide Quality Review Committee. Once the ACMS receives the request, the Program Director will be notified regarding the submission of their cases for review.

Case Selection:

The Program Director will submit three cases for review. All submitted cases should be from within one month from the time the ACMS requests slide material. Slides and Mohs maps are to be submitted as delineated below.

1. The first case will be a two-staged Mohs case that they consider the slide quality to be outstanding.
2. The second case should be a two-staged case that contains basal cell carcinoma. The date the case is taken from will be selected by the Slide Quality Review Committee and ACMS office.*
3. The third case should be a two-staged case that contains squamous cell carcinoma. The date the case is taken from will be selected by the Slide Quality Review Committee and ACMS office.*

*If, on a selected date, the Program Director does not have a two-staged case with the representative tumor being asked to be submitted, they will then move to the next day which they performed Mohs surgery and select a case that meets the criteria from that day.

The slides should have appropriate identifiers written on the slide labels to correlate with the submitted Mohs map.

The map should be a color copy of the original map, and contain a key with the colors used for chromacoding.

The map should have all identifying material and any HIPAA sensitive information blackened out or removed prior to submission.

Additional information to be submitted includes the type of stains used, the cryostat model, and thickness of sections, and the working diagnosis for the tumor represented.

The slides must be carefully packed in appropriate slide containers within a well-padded shipping package labeled 'fragile', and include return shipping forms. Once the slides are scanned and reviewed, they will be returned to the Program Director.

A standard form is completed by each reviewer for each slide set, reviewing the following criteria:

- Map Information
- Slide Labeling
- Thickness of Section
- Epidermis
- Dermis
- Subcutaneous Tissue
- Artifacts
- Stain quality
- Diagnostic Proficiency

The Program Director will receive an overall evaluation as well as a certificate of participation in the review process.

If deficiencies are noted in the evaluation, the Program Director is to respond with a letter or e-mail confirming that action has been taken to correct the deficiencies.