



# Quality Control System in Clinical Digital Pathology at a Tertiary Cancer Center

Kayoko Baftiu\*

Department of Pharmaceutics, University of Innsbruck, Austria

## INTRODUCTION

Pathology, the study of diseases and their underlying causes, plays a crucial role in unraveling the mysteries of the human body's malfunctions. Derived from the Greek words "pathos" (meaning disease or suffering) and "logos" (meaning study), pathology is a discipline that encompasses the examination, diagnosis, and understanding of diseases at the cellular and molecular levels. This article provides a glimpse into the world of pathology, exploring its significance, methodologies, and impact on healthcare. Pathology serves as a cornerstone in the field of medicine, acting as a bridge between clinical observations and scientific understanding. Pathologists, the experts in this field, investigate tissues, organs, and bodily fluids to identify the nature and causes of diseases. By examining the structural and functional changes in cells and tissues, pathologists contribute valuable information that aids in the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of illnesses. Two primary branches of pathology, histopathology, and cytopathology, focus on the microscopic examination of tissues and cells, respectively. Histopathology involves studying tissue specimens obtained through biopsies or surgical procedures. Pathologists analyze these samples to identify abnormalities, such as tumors, inflammation, or infections, providing critical insights into the nature of the disease. On the other hand, cytopathology involves the study of individual cells, typically obtained through methods like Pap smears or fine-needle aspirations.

## DESCRIPTION

This branch is instrumental in early cancer detection, allowing for prompt intervention and improved patient outcomes. Clinical pathology, another essential branch of pathology, delves into the analysis of bodily fluids, such as blood and urine. By examining biochemical, hematological, and immunological pa-

rameters, clinical pathologists contribute to the diagnosis and monitoring of various diseases, ranging from diabetes to autoimmune disorders. Advancements in technology have paved the way for molecular pathology, a field that explores the genetic and molecular basis of diseases. By studying DNA, RNA, and protein abnormalities, molecular pathologists gain insights into the genetic mutations responsible for diseases, enabling targeted therapies and personalized medicine. While often associated with forensic investigations, autopsy pathology also serves a critical role in understanding the natural progression of diseases. Post-mortem examinations help elucidate the cause of death and provide valuable information for medical research, allowing scientists to advance their understanding of diseases and contributing to medical knowledge. Pathology is fundamental to the practice of medicine, influencing patient care, research, and public health. Accurate diagnoses facilitated by pathologists guide healthcare professionals in determining the most effective treatment strategies.

## CONCLUSION

Moreover, pathology research contributes to the development of new therapeutic approaches and the identification of potential biomarkers for early disease detection. In essence, pathology is the silent hero of medicine, working behind the scenes to unravel the complexities of diseases. From the microscopic examination of tissues to the analysis of genetic mutations, pathologists play a pivotal role in shaping our understanding of health and illness. As technology continues to advance, the field of pathology will undoubtedly evolve, opening new frontiers in disease diagnosis and treatment. In the ever-evolving landscape of healthcare, pathology remains a beacon of knowledge, guiding clinicians and researchers towards a deeper comprehension of the intricate mechanisms underlying human diseases.

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**Corresponding author** Kayoko Baftiu, Department of Pharmaceutics, University of Innsbruck, Austria, E-mail: kayokobaftiu123@gmail.com

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