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1. Orientation

RECORD OF ROTATIONS/ATTACHMENTS

Number:

Name of rotation: Orientation

Period: 01-07-2018 to 12-08-2018 (6 weeks)

Learning objectives

- Familiarity with the laboratory organogram.
- Becoming a functional member of the Chemical Pathology Department.
- Understanding overtime duties in the laboratory and expectations of registrars on a day-to-day basis.
- Interpretation and evaluation of investigations such as electrophoresis.

Reflection on completion of rotation.

What has been learnt?

- The laboratory is a well organised structure that functions with a standard operating procedure to guide the laboratory personnel.
- The ability to audit results from samples submitted to the laboratory for testing (authorisation of results).
- The methods in place to attempt to avoid error and salvage a sample as much as possible
- The importance of having a good understanding of the fundamentals to set a good foundation for the remainder of the training programme
- The importance of forming and maintaining a good relationship with lab personnel.
- The great responsibility that comes with the permissions that registrars have. This is with regards to access to patient information and the ability to alter the final results that clinicians have access to.

What remains to be learnt?

- I still have to learn different techniques of performing investigations (e.g. chromatography vs spectrophotometry).
- Types of interferences and how this can affect analytes and thus the results.
- Becoming comfortable with interpretation of electrophoretic gels.
- Bridging the gap between clinicians and laboratory staff, seeking to encourage a relationship between the two.
- Obtaining a true grasp of what a Chemical Pathologist is and the functions that they perform.

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