Gastrointestinal Pathology Consultation Group

The Gastrointestinal Pathology Consultation Group at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) offers special expertise in the diagnosis of infectious, inflammatory, transplant-related, and neoplastic diseases involving the esophagus, stomach, intestinal tract, pancreas, liver and gallbladder.

The Gastrointestinal Consultation service combines an extensive array of diagnostic expertise into a single customer focused consultation program. Our team of gastrointestinal pathologists provide accurate and timely support during the initial stage of diagnosis, as well as during ongoing disease management. An extensive array of molecular diagnostic tests geared towards GI malignancies are also offered through our Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory.

Our team of experts

Audrey J. Lazenby, M.D.
Dr. Lazenby received her M.D. at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, completed residency in Anatomic Pathology at Washington University School of Medicine, followed by fellowships in Surgical Pathology at University of North Carolina, and a GI fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She has been on faculty at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, University of Alabama School of Medicine and UNMC. Dr. Lazenby is a former President of the National Gastrointestinal Pathology Society and served on the board of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology.

Geoffrey A. Talmon, M.D.
Dr. Talmon completed medical school and residency at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, followed by a Fellowship in Surgical Pathology at Mayo Clinic. Dr. Talmon is an award-winning, nationally recognized educator with experience in medical student and resident education. He currently serves as Vice Chair for Medical Education, director of the residency program, and leads the UNMC Interprofessional Academy of Educators. His research interests include neoplasms and inflammatory diseases of the gastrointestinal tract.

Allison Cushman-Vokoun, M.D., Ph.D.
Dr. Cushman-Vokoun did her combined AP/CP residency at UNMC and MGP Fellowship Training at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She is the Medical Director of the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory at Nebraska Medicine, where she oversees development and sign out of molecular oncology testing. She has also served on multiple committees for national pathology societies as an expert in molecular pathology. In this capacity, she was one of the co-authors on the 2017 guidelines outlining molecular biomarkers testing for the evaluation of colorectal cancer sponsored by CAP, ASCP, AMP, and ASCO.

Benjamin J. Swanson, M.D., Ph.D.
Dr. Swanson attended medical school at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and completed a pathology residency at UNMC as well. Following residency, he received fellowship training in Gastrointestinal Pathology at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center under the direction of Dr. Wendy Frankel. His interests are in pancreas, liver and GI luminal tract neoplasms.

Samuel M. Cohen, M.D., Ph.D.
Dr. Cohen obtained his M.D. and Ph.D. (experimental oncology) from the University of Wisconsin, residency at St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, MA and NIH fellowship in Nagoya, Japan. He was on the faculty at the University of Massachusetts medical school before joining the faculty at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1981, where Dr. Cohen served as Vice Chairman of the Department of Pathology and Microbiology from 1981 to 2007. He has served on numerous NIH, FDA, EPA and National Academy panels.

Kurt W. Fisher, M.D., Ph.D.
Dr. Fisher received his MD and PhD through the combined dual degree program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He completed his residency in Anatomic pathology at the University of Indiana in Indianapolis, IN and a gastrointestinal and solid organ transplant pathology fellowship at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Dr. Fisher’s interests include neoplastic diseases of the gastrointestinal tracts, small bowel and liver transplant pathology, and basic and translational research, which a special focus on colorectal cancer.

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Highlights of our GI Services:

• Expert interpretation of cases by local pathologists
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• Web portal access of results
• Dedicated 24/7 client service department
• Client and patient billing available
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Comprehensive and Customer Focused Consultation Program with the highest quality, most cost effective diagnostic service available

Regional Pathology Services is an academic outreach laboratory service at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) that provides a full range of clinical, anatomic and consultative pathology services. Our clinical laboratories at The Nebraska Medical Center provide a broad array of clinical testing options. Our staff includes nationally and internationally renown pathologists in all subspecialty areas of pathology who are available for both primary tissue diagnosis and case consultation. We are committed to providing you with the highest quality service with a strong customer focus.

For more information or to set up an account please contact one of our client coordinators at 402-559-6420.

University of Nebraska Medical Center
REGIONAL PATHOLOGY SERVICES

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