Introduction:
Cytopathology is a relatively old field of pathology which deals with morphological examination of cells to determine cancerous and non-cancerous lesions. In cytopathology, the samples can be easily and quickly prepared for fast diagnosis which makes the cornerstone of this branch of pathology. Due to the reasons mentioned, cytopathology has been very soon become popular and welcomed. This field, although starting from some European countries but in North America expanded dramatically. Today, almost all of the world's leading universities have flashed this field and big associations have been working on this kind of activity. In Iran, it has been a favorite for many years between Pathologists as well as clinical doctors.

Definition & Duration of the Training Program:
Cytopathology fellowship is a subspecialty of pathology whose graduates are trained in a joint programs for better and more accurate diagnosis of diseases based on cytomorphology. Its educational program mainly includes study the morphology of various organs of the body. The sample in cytology can be a physiological product such as urine and saliva, pap smears and liquids, or tissue samples from different organs. In addition, the use of other diagnostic methods, such as molecular pathology and Immunocytochemistry are one of the other applications of this field.

Duration of the course is 12 months.

Aims:
1- To train knowledgeable, competent and committed specialists who are competent in diagnosing diseases more accurately hence provide better treatment and continuously improve this process.

2- In next 10 years, we will reach world standards regarding education in Cytopathology fellowship so that we will be among the top countries in the Middle East regarding providing high quality service provision and science production.
Admission Requirements
- Board of Pathology Specially faculty memberships

General Competencies

Specific Competencies and Skills:
- Procedural competencies:
  Preparation of cytology slides and cell block
  Preparation of liquid based slides
- Examining specimens sent for cytological evaluation
- Immunohistochemistry (IHC) on cell block
- Specific staining of different cytology slides
- Fine needle aspiration of lymph node, thyroid and salivary gland

Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques

A. Assessment Methods
Written, oral and practical assessment, OSCE exams and logbook assessment

B. Periods of Assessment
Formative and 2 times during course (Summative )
At the end of the fellowship course, the student should publish two articles in ISI journals

Ethical Considerations*
*Note: The related document(s) can be found at http://hcmeb.behdasht.gov.i