

Improving Pathology Services in Developing Countries

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The Role of Pathologist and range of Pathology Services

- Pathologists hold a key position for Cancer Diagnosis.
Management.
- Pathology covers many disciplines in addition to Anatomic Pathology

Requirements of Good Pathology Services

- Adequately Trained Pathologists in sufficient Numbers
- Trained Laboratory Technologists
- Reliable Equipment and Reagents
- Internal and External Quality Assurance Programs
- Licensing, Accreditation and certification

Country	Society	Ratio Members/ Million	Rank
United Kingdom	Royal College of Pathologist	109.0	1
Australia	Royal College of Australasia	95.2	2
Italy	Associazione Italiana Patologi	57.4	3
Indonesia	Ikatan Ahli Patologi Indonesia	2.4	35
Colombia	Sociedad Columbiana de Patologia Clinica	2.3	35.5
India	Indian Association of Pathologists	2.3	37

Labs Supervised By Pathologists

South Asia

City	Number of Labs	Supervised By Pathologists	Non Pathologists
Kolhapur	273	23 (20%)	250 (80%)
Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	81	35 (43%)	44 (57%)

Lab Technologists

- Poor Training
- Inadequate Service structure
- Insufficient Numbers

In vitro diagnostic medical devices.

- Poor Quality Reagent Kits
- Equipment Repair and Maintenance Poor
- Erratic Power Supply
- Expensive

IMD Evaluation and Quality

Assurance SEAR Countries

- Quality Assurance Requirement National policy/Guidelines for Quality Assurance for lab Kits 1/9
- Regulatory Authority for Lab Kits 4/9
- Networking of Labs for Quality Assurance 1/9
- NEQAS 1/9

Licensing, Accreditation and Certification

- No License required to establish or run a lab
- Accreditation Programs Expensive and beyond the financial/technical reach of over 90% of Labs
- No access to Quality Assurance

Prohibitive Cost

- Immunohistochemistry for Lymphoma classification

Problems faced by a Pathologist in Developing Countries

- **Inadequate man power and physical infrastructure**
- **Poor In vitro diagnostic medical devices.**
- **Absent Quality Management System**
- **No Licensing Accreditation**
- **Prohibitive costs**

What can Developing Countries do

- Improve Academic infrastructure
- Regulate Pathology Practice
- IMD Evaluation Facilities
- Promote Appropriate Technologies and Procedures

Essential Laboratory Equipment and Material List for developing countries

- WHO Essential Drug Lists
- Easy Procurement and Maintenance
- Cost Reduction
- Standardization of Tests
- Standardization of IMD

What can INCTR do

- INCTR should assist not provide
- Act as catalyst to promote change
- Promote regional Cooperation

INCTR Role


- Education and Training.
- Providing information through INCTR portal/News letters.
- Propagation and refinement of techniques and approaches suitable for countries with limited financial resources.
- Consultation Services. Panels of experts could be constituted on national, regional or international basis to provide diagnosis and assessment of common tumors, especially in those where collaborative projects are being run.
- Standardization and uniformity in reporting.
- Tele-Pathology

INCTR Role

- Provide assistance, guidance and help in establishing and upgrading Pathology services in countries where they are not able to provide the necessary diagnostic infrastructure for cancer diagnosis and management.

Centers of Excellence

- later generation tests in various disciplines
- Training for pathologists and technologists from developing countries.
- Serve as a referral centre for consultation.
- Act as a repository of material received from collaborative institutions and establish Tissue/ Serum Bank

A photograph of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology building, a large, modern, light-colored structure with multiple wings and a central tower. The building is surrounded by green lawns and trees. In the foreground, a white sign with black text is visible. The sky is clear and blue.

**Armed Forces
Institute of Pathology**

عسکری ادارہ برائے علم امراض