



Cellular pathology audit template

Date of completion	(To be inserted when completed)
Name of lead author/ participants	(To be inserted)
Specialty	Paediatric and perinatal pathology
Title	An audit of quality of reporting placental pathology
Background	<p>The histopathological examination of the placenta can play a vital role in the management of future pregnancies as well as management of newborns.</p> <p>The <i>Tissue Pathway for Histological Examination of the Placenta</i> provides guidance on current accepted practice for the diagnostic approach and reporting of such specimens.</p>
Aim & objectives	To determine the percentage of placenta histopathology reports that meet the recommended criteria for specimen handling and report content (see sections 4, 5 and 6 of <i>Tissue Pathway for Histopathological Examination of the Placenta</i>).
Standards & criteria	<p>Criteria range: 95% of reports fulfil the minimum requirements.</p> <p>The agreed standards: each report should include the minimum descriptors as defined in the tissue pathway. There will be some cases when it is not possible to insert all data items, e.g. traumatised specimens where tissue is not submitted for examination. All reports where possible should include a comment with indicative clinicopathological correlation.</p>
Method	<p>Sample selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review 10% of finalised reports for one calendar month from current year and the previous year.• Record whether the data items outlined below are/are not included in each report. <p>Data to be collected on proforma (see below).</p>



Results	<p>(To be completed by the author)</p> <p>The results of this audit show the following compliance with the standards:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Data items</th> <th>% compliance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Description of umbilical cord</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Description of placental membranes</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Description of dividing membranes (twin/multiple)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Description of fetal surface</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Description of maternal surface</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Description of placenta cut surface</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Histological description of umbilical cord</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Histological description of placental membranes</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Histological description of trimmed placenta sections</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Comment with clinicopathological correlation</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Comment on prognostication (if appropriate)</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Commentary:</p>	Data items	% compliance	Description of umbilical cord		Description of placental membranes		Description of dividing membranes (twin/multiple)		Description of fetal surface		Description of maternal surface		Description of placenta cut surface		Histological description of umbilical cord		Histological description of placental membranes		Histological description of trimmed placenta sections		Comment with clinicopathological correlation		Comment on prognostication (if appropriate)	
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Conclusion	(To be completed by the author)																								
Recommendations for improvement	<p>Present the result with recommendations, actions and responsibilities for action, and a timescale for implementation. Assign a person(s) responsible to do the work within a timeframe.</p> <p>Some suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight areas of practice that are different. • Present findings. 																								
Action plan	(To be completed by the author – see attached action plan proforma)																								
Re-audit date	(To be completed by the author)																								
Reference	<p>Evans C, Goodlings L, Hargitai B, Heazell A, Jessop F, Marton T, <i>et al.</i> <i>Tissue Pathway for Histopathological Examination of the Placenta (3rd edition)</i>. London, UK: Royal College of Pathologists, 2022.</p> <p>https://www.rcpath.org/uploads/assets/ec614dfa-007c-4a93-8173cb202a071a72/a8b51280-edf3-4414-9197ab58d641bafd/G108-Tissue-pathway-for-histopathological-examination-of-the-placenta.pdf</p>																								

Data collection proforma for quality of placenta histopathology reports

Audit reviewing practice

Patient name:

Hospital number:

Date of birth:

Consultant:

	1 Yes	2 No	3 If No , was there documentation to explain the variance? Yes/No plus free-text comment	4 Compliant with guideline based on Yes from column 1 or an appropriate explanation from column 3. Yes/No
Description of umbilical cord				
Description of placental membranes				
Description of dividing membranes (twin/multiple)				
Description of fetal surface				
Description of maternal surface				
Description of placenta cut surface				
Histological description of umbilical cord				
Histological description of placental membranes				
Histological description of trimmed placenta sections				
Comment with clinicopathological correlation				
Comment on prognostication (if appropriate)				

Audit action plan

An audit of quality of reporting placental pathology

Audit recommendation	Objective	Action	Timescale	Barriers and constraints	Outcome	Monitoring