PATHOLOGY PREPARATION PROCESS FOR TUMOR BOARDS

{ Which makes more sense for your team? }

TUMOR BOARD ANALOG FLOW

The traditional mode of tumor board review, analog flow involves glass slides that are passed back and forth to technicians, pathologists and boards and other stakeholders. This process takes several days and assumes a certain amount of risk due to the amount of slide handling.

WHAT CAN GO WRONG?

SLIDES MISFILED. SLIDES BROKEN. SLIDES MISLABELED. SLIDES LOST.

DAY 1

- Analog (glass) slides prepared and signed out; Case is filed
- List of cases provided to pathology/pathologist by tumor registrar
- List is reviewed by pathologist and cases for presentation are selected

DAY 2

- List of selected cases provided to support staff who prints case reports and pulls glass slides
- Are slides available?
  - YES → Reports and slides put together and provided to pathologist for re-review
  - NO → Slides recut if possible (Slides not filed, misfiled, lost, sent out, etc.)
- Reports and slides put together and provided to pathologist for re-review

DAY 3

- Quality Assurance is performed on case at multi-head session

DAY 4

- Slides are manually marked-up, dotted or photographed by the pathologist and arranged for presentation via projecting microscope or Powerpoint. (This step requires 2+ hours)
- Presentation is created and saved to network or thumb drive for presentation
- Tumor Board presentation
- Are all key areas of interest represented?
  - YES → CASE REVIEW COMPLETE
  - NO → Will this case be reviewed by a future Tumor Board?
    - YES → List of additional slides to pull is provided to support staff → Are slides available?
    - NO → CASE REVIEW COMPLETE

CASE REVIEW COMPLETE (Slides re-filed with potential for misfiling, loss, breakage, etc.)

TUMOR BOARD DIGITAL FLOW

DAY 1

- Analog (glass) slides prepared and signed out
- Critical slides flagged by pathologist for scanning
- Slides are scanned and case is accessioned into the system to include associated data from pathology report
- List of cases provided to pathology/ pathologist by tumor registrar
- Using the digital system, Quality Assurance review is performed on case
- Digital slides for tumor boards are reviewed and annotated for presentation.

These two steps can be reversed or performed simultaneously

At this point, previously archived and relevant digital slides can be quickly pulled and added to the review for additional context.

DAY 2

- Tumor Board presentation

CASE REVIEW COMPLETE

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