

Clinical Microbial pathology

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Clinical Microbiology and Infection (CMI) is a monthly peer-reviewed medical journal publishing original research and review articles that assist physicians and microbiologists in their management of patients and the prevention of infectious diseases. CMI publishes manuscripts presenting the results of original research in clinical microbiology, infectious diseases, bacteriology, mycology, virology and parasitology, including immunology and epidemiology as related to these fields. The journal website offers online articles and issues as well as collections according to article type. The journal also publishes editorials, commentaries and reviews, as well as guidelines originating from ESCMID Study Groups and ESCMID-sponsored conferences. These guidelines and collections make CMI a reference source for infectious disease researchers, for practising clinicians and for informing people of emerging infections and new outbreaks. CMI was launched in 1995 and is published by Elsevier on behalf of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID), of which it is the official journal. The editor-in-chief is Leonard Leibovici (Tel-Aviv University). According to the Journal Citation Reports, the journal has a 2018 impact factor of 6.425. The journal aims to promote the use of good methods in basic and clinical research, and to publish interesting and thought-provoking materials that have the potential to change clinical practice. Clinical pathology is a medical specialty that is concerned with the diagnosis of disease based on the laboratory analysis of bodily fluids, such as blood, urine, and tissue homogenates or extracts using the tools of chemistry, microbiology, hematology and molecular pathology. This specialty requires a medical residency. Pathology is the study of the causes and effects of disease or injury. The word pathology also refers to the study of disease in general, incorporating a wide range of bioscience research fields and medical practices. However, when used in the context of modern medical treatment, the term is often used in a more narrow fashion to refer to processes and tests which fall within the contem-

porary medical field of “general pathology”, an area which includes a number of distinct but inter-related medical specialties that diagnose disease, mostly through analysis of tissue, cell, and body fluid samples. Idiomatically, “a pathology” may also refer to the predicted or actual progression of particular diseases (as in the statement “the many different forms of cancer have diverse pathologies”), and the affix *pathy* is sometimes used to indicate a state of disease in cases of both physical ailment (as in *cardiomyopathy*) and psychological conditions (such as *psychopathy*). A physician practicing pathology is called a *pathologist*. As a field of general inquiry and research, pathology addresses four components of disease: cause, mechanisms of development (*pathogenesis*), structural alterations of cells (*morphologic changes*), and the consequences of changes (*clinical manifestations*). In common medical practice, general pathology is mostly concerned with analyzing known clinical abnormalities that are markers or precursors for both infectious and non-infectious disease, and is conducted by experts in one of two major specialties, *anatomical pathology* and *clinical pathology*. Further divisions in specialty exist on the basis of the involved sample types (comparing, for example, *cytopathology*, *hematopathology*, and *histopathology*), organs (as in *renal pathology*), and physiological systems (*oral pathology*), as well as on the basis of the focus of the examination (as with *forensic pathology*) Pathology is a significant field in modern medical diagnosis and medical research.

The study of pathology, including the detailed examination of the body, including dissection and inquiry into specific maladies, dates back to antiquity. Rudimentary understanding of many conditions was present in most early societies and is attested to in the records of the earliest historical societies, including those of the Middle East, India, and China. By the Hellenic period of ancient Greece, a concerted causal study of disease was underway (see *Medicine in ancient Greece*), with many notable early physicians (such as Hippocrates, for whom the modern Hippocratic Oath is named) having developed methods of diagnosis and prognosis for a number of diseases.