

Cytopathology Technologist Interview Questions

1. Walk me through how you examine cell samples to detect abnormalities in the color, shape, or size of cellular components and patterns.

2. What is the most challenging part of providing patient clinical data or microscopic findings to assist pathologists in the preparation of pathology reports?

3. Describe an effective method to document specimens by verifying patients' and specimens' information.

4. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

5. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

6. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

7. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

8. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

9. Tell me how you maintain effective laboratory operations by adhering to standards of specimen collection, preparation, or laboratory safety.

10. What kind of experience do you have preparing and analyzing samples, such as Papanicolaou (PAP) smear body fluids and fine needle aspirations (FNAs), to detect abnormal conditions?

11. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

12. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

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13. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

14. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

15. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

16. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

17. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

18. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

19. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

20. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

21. What have you found to be the best way to assist pathologists or other physicians to collect cell samples such as by fine needle aspiration (FNA) biopsies?

22. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

23. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

24. Share your process when preparing cell samples by applying special staining techniques, such as chromosomal staining, to differentiate cells or cell components.

25. How do you stay up to date with new or improved techniques to address laboratory issues?

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26. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.

27. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

28. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.

29. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

30. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

31. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.

32. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

33. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

34. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

35. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

36. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

37. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

38. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you

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able to be successful?

39. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

40. Tell me about the last time you oversaw the work of someone else. How did you effectively motivate, develop, and direct the worker(s)?

41. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?

42. Describe an experience in which your ability to work well with others and reconcile differences helped your company or employer. (Make sure the candidate knows how to negotiate.)