



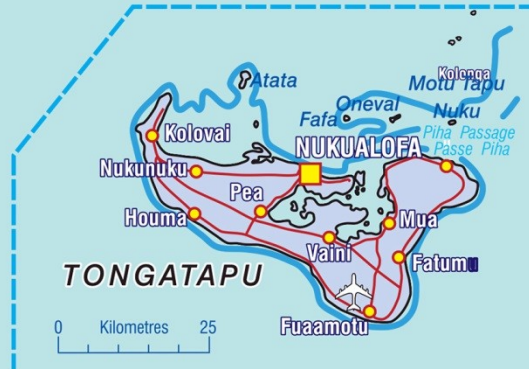
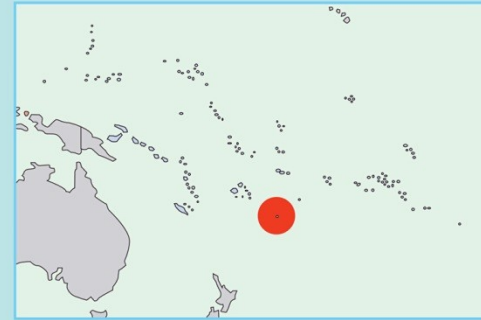
# Insights into Problems Besetting Pathology Training in Tonga

A Trainee  
Perspective

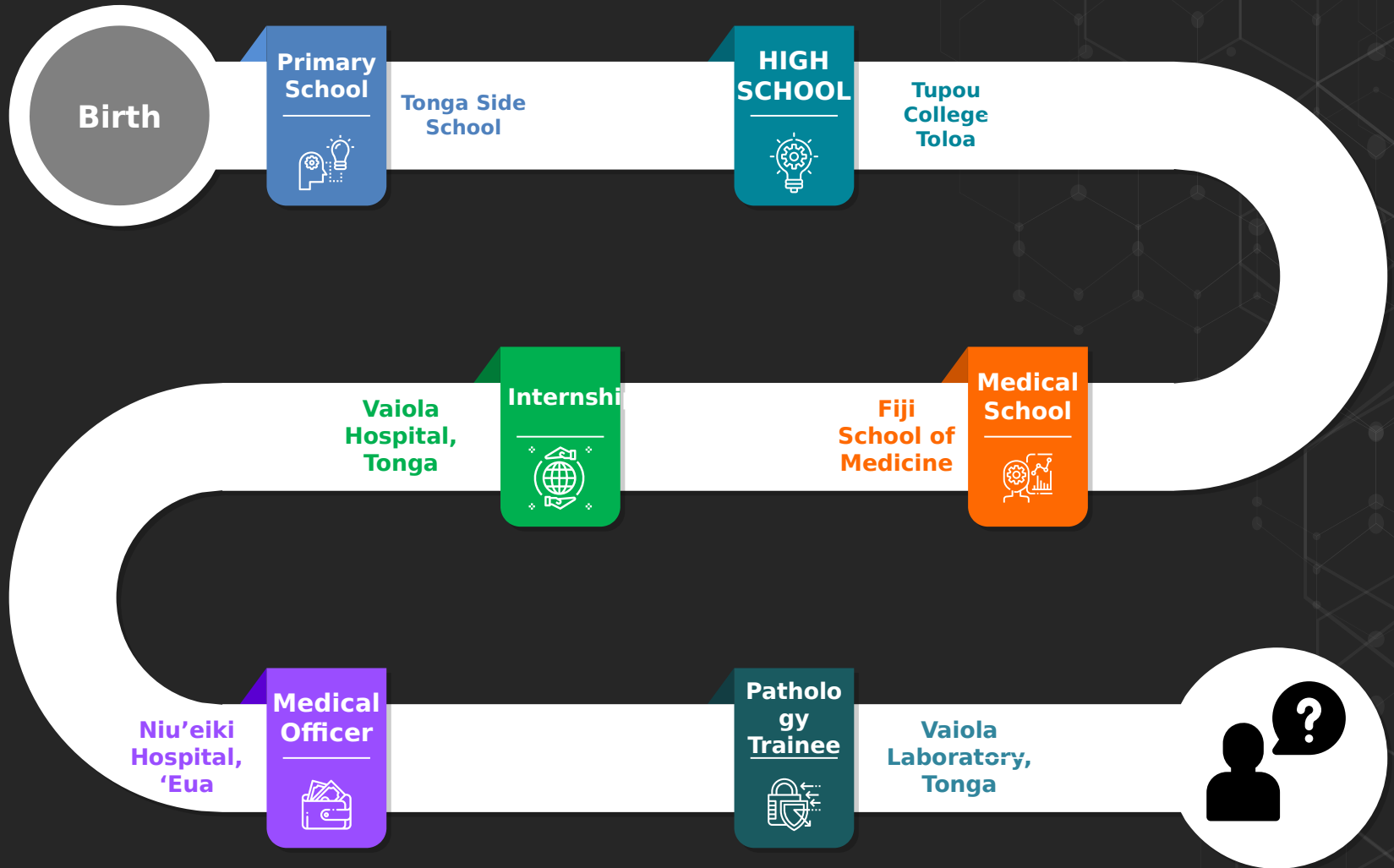
# Introduction



Tonga



# CAREER PATH



# Overview of Pathology in Tonga

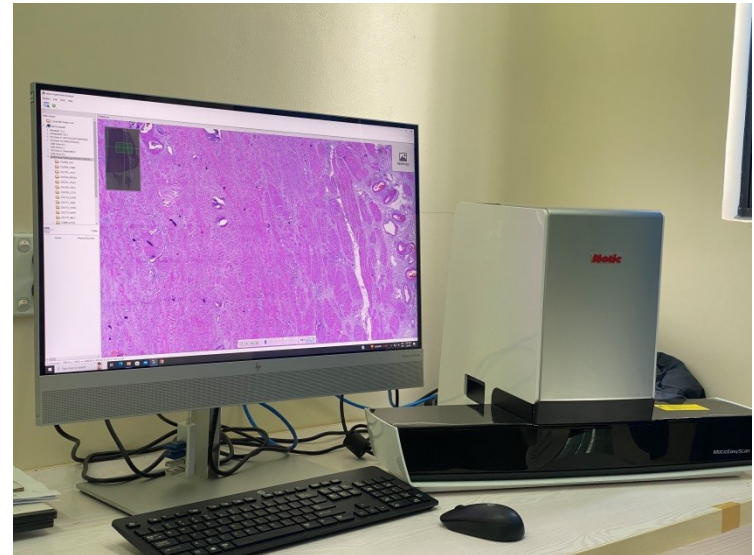
- Team Tonga

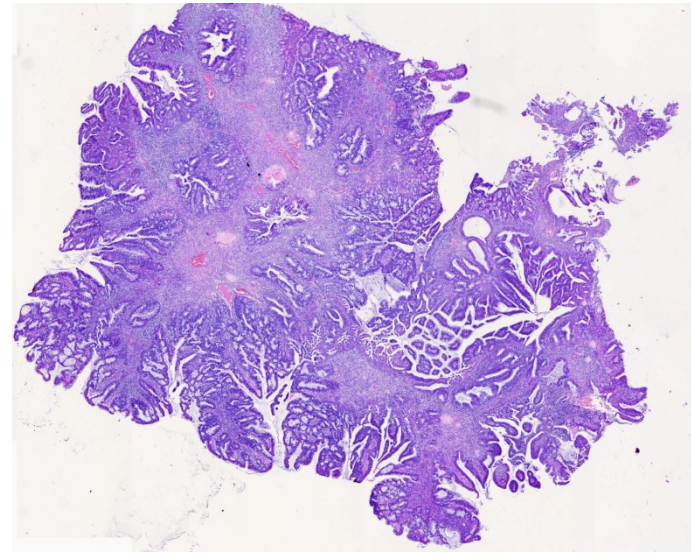
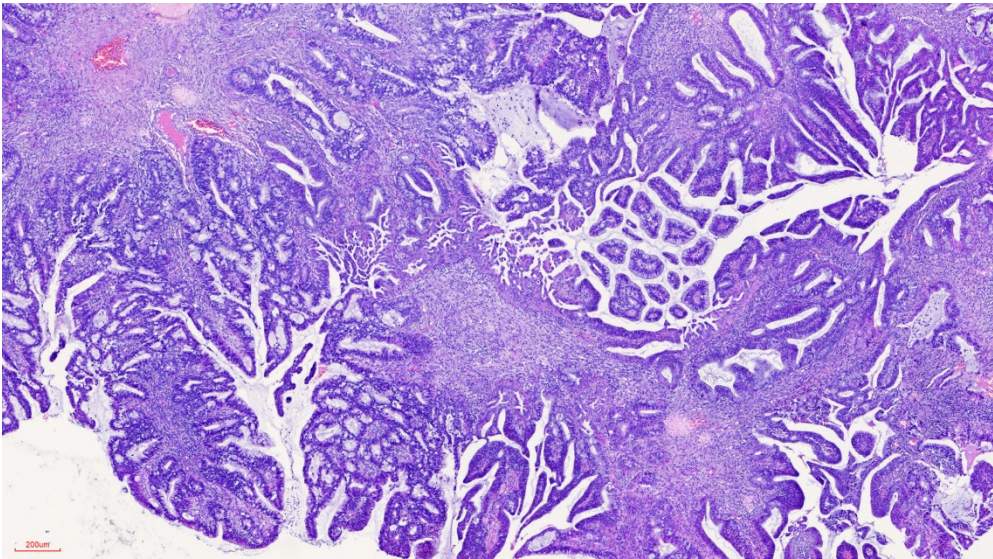
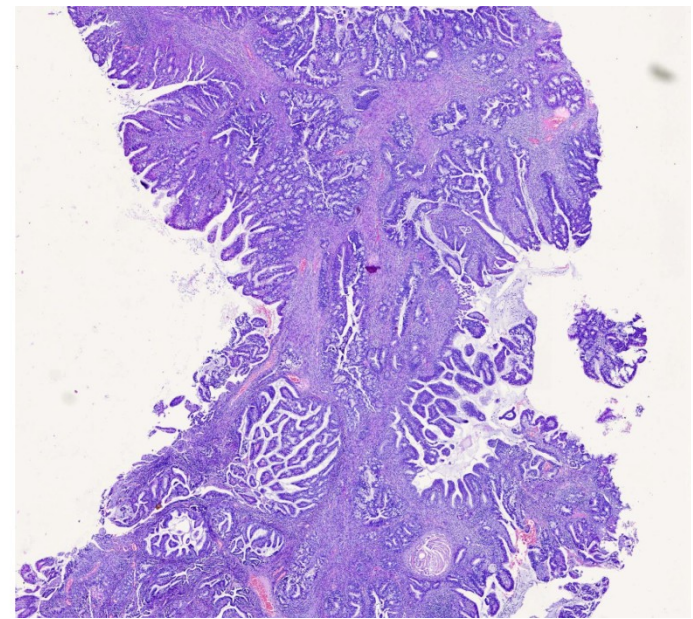
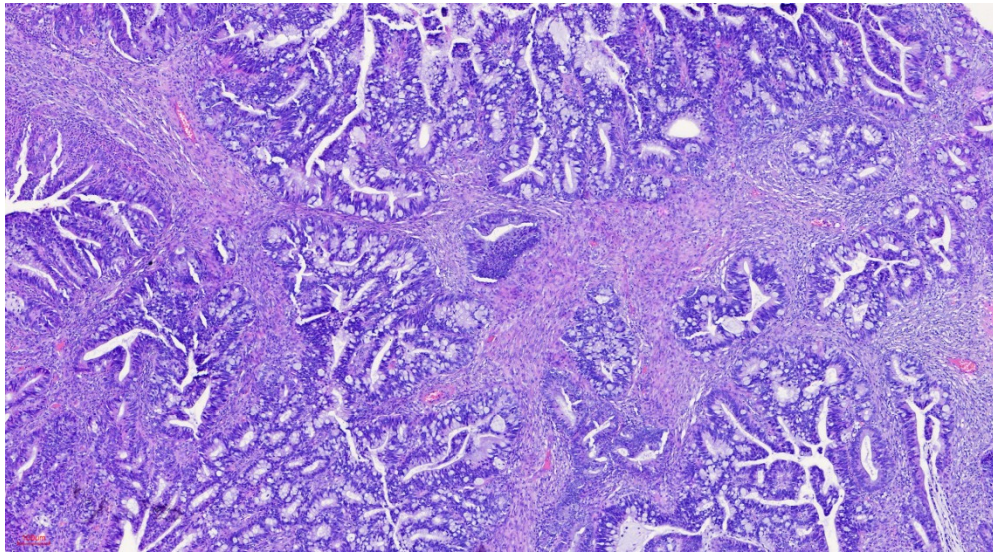


- Importance of Pathology in Tonga
  - For accurate diagnosis
  - Personalized medical treatment
  - Assist with Disease Outbreaks
  - Screening Programs
  - Quality Healthcare – Better Patient Outcomes

# Current State of Pathology Training

- Diagnosis and Teaching via Telepathology
- Weekly Tutorials
- Onsite visits by Dr David Clift





# Key Challenges in Pathology Training

- Lack of Resources/ Lack of support locally
- One Pathologist for Reporting and Training remotely
- Overseas Training in Fiji or PNG is unsupported and problematical

# Impact of These Challenges

- Failure of pathology services due to overseas training
- Overseas training in unfavourable conditions
- Doubts of going back to home country after training

# Possible Solutions

- Collaboration with pathologists across the region across national and cultural boundaries
- Localized training programs available across the Pacific
- Telepathology and online training modules
- Six to eight weeks attachments to pathology lab overseas

# Conclusion

- Pathology services are essential for the people of Tonga
- Remote Pathology training with support from neighbouring pathologists may address this need



***“We are like islands in the sea, separated on the surface but connected in the deep”***

# Acknowledgement

- Pathology Ambassador – Dr David Clift
- Australia Clinical Laboratories (Geelong)
- DFAT
- Dr 'Eka Buadromo and SPC team.

# MALO 'AUPITO

**Email:** [patrickpenitani@gmail.com](mailto:patrickpenitani@gmail.com)  
**Phone:** 0415781473  
**Tongan #:** (676) 7764949