



COLLEGE of AMERICAN PATHOLOGISTS

Candidate Information

Candidate: Richard H. Knierim, MD, FCAP

Institution: Swedish Medical Center
Bellevue, Washington



PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Age Group:** Over 65
- **Years in Practice:** 50 years
- **Boards:** AP/CP, Cytopathology
- **Boards (non-ABPath):** Dermatopathology (International Board of Dermatopathology)
- **Education:**
 - Received MD, 1970, Loma Linda University
 - Residency: University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals, 1971-1975, AP/CP
 - Rotating Fellowship: University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals, 1970-1971
- **Employment Status:** Semi Retired (<50%)
- **Practice Type:** Consultation
- **Practice Size:** 0-5 pathologists

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- **Position:** Pathologist and medical staff member, Swedish Medical Center

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- College of American Pathologists (CAP)
- Washington State Society of Pathologists
- Pacific Northwest Society of Pathologists
- Oregon Pathologists Association
- California Society of Pathologists (CSP)
- Texas Society of Pathologists (TSP)
- Florida Society of Pathologists (FSP)
- Pennsylvania Association of Pathologists (PAP)

CAP ACTIVITIES

CURRENT

- **Delegate:** House of Delegates (HOD)

PAST

- **Governor:** CAP Board of Governors (BOG)
- **Chair:** HOD
- **Vice Chair:** Council on Accreditation
- **Member:** Professional and Community Engagement Committee; Audit Committee; Council on Government and Professional



Development; Council on Membership and Professional Development; Finance Committee; Council on Scientific Affairs; Council on Accreditation; CAP Nominating Committee

- **Delegate:** House of Delegates (HOD)
- **Advisor:** Quality Practices Committee

SPECIAL PROFESSIONAL HONORS OR AWARDS

- CAP President's Honors, 2018
- United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology, President's Certificate, 2025
- Alpha Omega Alpha, Loma Linda University, 1970
- Magna cum laude, Columbia Union College, 1966

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Why do you want to be the president-elect of the CAP?

I want to lead CAP in delivering real, tangible value for every pathologist. My experience in medium sized to large practices in Spokane and Seattle, along with a track record of exceeding expectations, gives me the opportunity to advance our specialty. While my opponent brings valuable solo practice experience, my background offers a broader perspective to serve CAP's diverse membership.

What is the strongest contribution you could make as part of the CAP Board of Governors?

My strongest contribution would be bringing focus and collaboration to the Board—prioritizing the issues that matter most to pathologists, ensuring our meetings are impactful, and selecting top-tier speakers. I would strengthen interaction with other pathology and medical organizations, advocate for our profession with legislators, and champion the inclusion of pathology in medical education.

What major issues do you see facing the CAP during the next three years?

I am honored to be able to seek your support to become CAP President-elect. Our specialty faces significant challenges—and exciting opportunities.

Key Issues Ahead:

Reimbursement Pressures: Ongoing attempts to reduce reimbursement threaten our profession. We must strengthen our advocacy, educate legislators, and collaborate with other medical associations to protect our interests.

Burnout and Workforce Well-being: Pathologist burnout is real. CAP must lead in supporting our members' well-being and work-life balance.

Misinformation: We face increasing misinformation on critical topics. CAP should be a trusted source of truth for our members and the public.

Digital Pathology and AI: The rapid evolution of digital pathology and AI presents both challenges and opportunities. We need to guide its evaluation and integration to enhance, not replace, our expertise. AI workshops and webinars will help to ensure our readiness.

Competition in Proficiency Testing and Accreditation: CAP's leadership in laboratory quality is vital. We must be aware of significant competition in these areas.

Recruitment and Membership: Attracting outstanding medical students to pathology and growing our membership are essential.



Insurer Interference: Private insurers are increasingly limiting patient and physician choice. We must continue to advocate against these restrictive practices and protect our autonomy.

Conflicts of interest: one example - private equity offers for individuals near retirement and younger colleagues.

Good News: The recent court decision halting the FDA's overreach on LDT regulation is a victory. Now, we must work with policymakers to clarify CLIA regulations, foster innovation, and ensure access to high-quality laboratory services.

If elected, what do you hope to accomplish?

I will bring experience, energy, and a collaborative spirit to the CAP Board. Together, we can address many challenges and secure a bright future for pathology.