

**Collection
Instructions**
Biopsy tissue

- Formalin preserved specimen (FFPE tissue curls x10 preferred to a block)
OR
- Fresh tissue (submitted in saline whenever available).

Core needle biopsies

- Optimal investigation requires two separate specimens:
 1. Formalin preserved specimen, e.g. excision biopsy:
 - Send to Anatomical Pathology for sectioning.
 2. Fresh (unpreserved) tissue:
 - Add enough saline to cover the specimen.
 - Send immediately to the Public Health Lab.

NOTE: Biopsy should be performed trans-hepatically through a healthy margin of liver tissue, preferably 2 cm, before approaching the parasitic tissue. This is to minimize the risk of contamination of the abdominal cavity. All specimens should be collected from the lesion edge while avoiding clearly necrotic area or making sure that the biopsy material includes only a small portion of necrotic tissue.

Resection material (wedge resection, lobectomy, etc.) including autopsy specimen

- Optimal investigation requires two separate specimens:
 1. Formalin preserved specimen:
 - Send to Anatomical Pathology for sectioning.
 2. Fresh (unpreserved) tissue:
 - Collect a small (0.5 x 0.5 cm if possible) portion of the affected tissue in a clean container.
 - Add enough saline to cover the specimen.
 - Send immediately to the Public Health Lab.

**Labelling the
Specimen**

Label the collection container(s) with **all** the following information:

- Patient **full first and last name**
- Patient **Personal Health Number** (or another unique/personal identifier)
- **Date and time** of specimen collection
- If multiple sources collected, **clearly write the source on each specimen**

**Lab
Requisition**

- For non-Epic users, complete & submit the following paper requisition: [Echinococcus Investigation](#)

**Specimen
Delivery to Lab**
FFPE

- Deliver specimen and requisition to the laboratory as soon as possible.
- No refrigeration required.

Fresh tissue

- Deliver specimen and requisition to the laboratory immediately after collection or store at -70°C.
- Transport on ice.

**Questions? Contact the [Public Health Lab \(ProvLab\) Microbiologist On-Call](#)
or call Alberta Precision Laboratories at 1-877-868-6848**