

Date: July 14, 2015
To: EZ Surgeons, EZ Oncologists, EZ Radiologists, EZ OR Nursing Staff
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Changes to the Edmonton Zone Anatomical Pathology Lymphoma Protocol

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Key Messages:

- Effective **July 15, 2015** the Edmonton Zone Anatomical Pathology sites will be going live with the implementation of the changes made to the lymphoma protocol.
- All tissue biopsies in the Edmonton Zone with clinical suspicion of lymphoma requiring the lymphoma protocol will now follow the revised standardized lymphoma protocol.
- During regular anatomical pathology laboratory hours, specimens requiring the lymphoma protocol are to be submitted as fresh tissues to the anatomical pathology department and the department is notified as per standard protocols.
- After hours and on weekends the clinician is responsible for ensuring that the entire specimen is placed into an appropriately labelled container with formalin and is submitted to the anatomical pathology department.
- All tissue biopsies requiring the lymphoma protocol will be assigned a CT accession number and slides will be sent to the Cross Cancer Institute to be read by a Lymphoma Diagnostic Team pathologist.

Why this is important:

- The Edmonton Zone lymphoma special interest group has provided input to help incorporate best practices into the lymphoma protocol. These changes to the lymphoma protocol help to:
 - Decrease turn around times for specimens requiring the lymphoma protocol to provide optimal patient care.
 - Standardize lymphoma protocol practices across the Edmonton Zone
 - Decrease the duplication of processes

Action Required:

- All clinicians should be aware of the anatomical pathology laboratory hours at their sites and submit specimens requiring the lymphoma protocol with or without formalin accordingly.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

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This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

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