

Histology Information on Submitting Tissue

A. Specimens Submitted to Red Deer Hospital Lab

1. Contact a pathologist if in doubt about specimen submission or if specimen is unusual.
2. Specimen submission criteria.

Submitted tissue may be considered in one or more of 4 categories:

i) IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED:

eg. Frozen section, intraoperative consultation, suspected lymphoma cases.

- Submit fresh (unfixed) tissue in an appropriately labelled container.
- Call a pathologist IMMEDIATELY at 403-343-4735 or 587-876-4274.

ii) URGENT ATTENTION REQUIRED (WITHIN SEVERAL HOURS):

- This category includes cases that will require special attention or handling by the pathologist in a timely fashion.
- The tissue should be placed in formalin unopened and the pathologist on-call notified at 587-876-4274.
- Specific examples include:
 - a) Large solid specimens (>5 cm) that arrive in the pathology pick-up area after 5 pm on a regular workday OR evenings/weekends (out-of-hours).
 - b) Suspected neoplastic uteri or ovaries that are done out-of-hours.
 - c) Abdominoperineal resections (these are fixed in a specific manner different from other bowel resections).
 - d) Whipple's procedure.

iii) ROUTINE TISSUE SPECIMENS:

- Submit in 10% buffered formalin ONLY.
- Volume of formalin should be ten times the volume of the tissue.
- Special considerations for ROUTINE PATHOLOGY:
 - a) Hollow organs
 - i) If during regular hours (8-5 pm) leave specimen unopened.
 - ii) If after hours surgeon opens hollow organs except for specimens above (APR, Whipple's).
 - **Uteri:** If delivered to the pathology area in OR before **5 pm**, place in formalin **UNOPENED**. After 5 pm and other after-hour times, **benign uteri** should be **BIVALVED** to allow for adequate fixation of endometrium.
 - **Breast biopsies for x-ray** MUST be placed in formalin PRIOR to being sent out to Diagnostic Imaging.

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iv) SITES OF BIOPSY REQUIRING A SCHEDULED BOOKING TIME:

- Includes muscle, nerve, renal and suspected lymphoma cases.
 - a) Call Histology at 343-4729 to book procedure at least one day prior to procedure being performed.
 - b) Book procedure Monday through Thursday before 09:00 am.
 - c) Submit a sterile, fresh specimen.
 - d) If there is a need to perform these biopsies more urgently, the clinician should contact the pathologist on-call at 587-876-4274 to discuss the details.

NOTE: Specimens may be time sensitive and require procurement and handling by laboratory staff prior to 0930 am.

3. Specimen Orders:

i) Submit with ALL pathology specimens:

- A completed Histopathology Test Request Form.
- A Meditech order notice if order is placed in the Meditech System.

ii) Complete the Histopathology Test Request Form with the following information:

- Patient demographics (patient name, DOB, gender, MRN and account number for inpatients, PHN).
- List all tissues to be examined.
- All pertinent clinical history.
- Full name of submitting and copy to physicians or location.
- Ordering location.
- Date and time specimen is collected.

B. Specimens Submitted to Dynalife Diagnostics Laboratory Services

<https://www.dynalifedx.com/AnatomicPathology>

C. Tissue Exclusion List

http://www.qp.alberta.ca/574.cfm?page=1990_247.cfm&leg_type=Reqs&isbncIn=9780779722143

Special note for Central Zone:

- Normal singleton placentas.
- Femoral heads removed at the time of arthroplasty are not routinely processed unless requested by clinician.

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