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 uterii 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.
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

Special note for Central Zone:
- Normal singleton placentas.
- Femoral heads removed at the time of arthroplasty are not routinely processed unless requested by clinician.