



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING SURGICAL PATHOLOGY (HISTOLOGY) SPECIMENS

### **PATIENT PREPARATION**

No patient preparation is required.

### **LABEL THE SPECIMEN**

**Patient's complete first and last name (no nicknames or initials), specimen source, and date of time of collection MUST be on the plus one of the following unique patient identifiers:**

1. Patient's date of birth.
2. Requisition number.
3. Medical record number / chart number

### **COMPLETE THE REQUISITION**

1. Patient's first and last name. *Do not use nicknames.*
2. Patient's date of birth.
3. First and last name of the requesting physician.
4. Test requested.
5. Specimen source.
6. Date and time of collection.
7. Include pertinent patient history.
8. ICD 10 code(s)
9. Billing information (client, patient, 3<sup>rd</sup> party)

### **COLLECTION OF TISSUE SPECIMENS:**

1. Tissue specimens must be placed in buffered 10% formalin immediately.
2. Formalin should cover the entire specimen.
3. **DO NOT ALLOW SPECIMENS TO DRY.** Note: If the specimen cannot be placed in formalin immediately, place the tissue in a sponge or towel moistened with saline.
4. If transportation to the laboratory will be overnight, the surgeon should open large specimens so formalin will contact the endometrium of the uterus or lumen of the bowel. Note: Care should be taken so excessive dissection does not interfere with the pathology examination.

### **COLLECTION OF OTHER SPECIMENS:**

#### **AMPUTATED LIMBS**

Keep specimen cool. Fixative not required

#### **CALCULI (Kidney or Bladder Stones)**

Submit dry without a fixative.

Place in a sterile plastic container or a plain red top clot tube.

### **ESTROGEN AND PROGESTERONE RECEPTOR AND PLOIDY STUDIES**

Frozen specimens are not required.

Studies are performed on paraffin blocks of formalin fixed tissues.

### **MICROBIOLOGY STUDIES**

Call Microbiology for collection instructions.

Specimens should not be exposed to formalin.

### **CYTOGENETIC STUDIES**

Place specimen in a sterile container.

Refrigerate. Do not freeze.

Studies are performed at Munroe Meyer Institute and PLS will transport specimen to them.

To obtain a Munroe Meyer requisition or answer any question, call (402) 559-5070.

**If you have questions, call Histology at (402)731-4145 or (800) 642-1117**