COMPUNET CLINICAL LABORATORIES

HISTOLOGY PROCEDURE

Surgical Specimen Care, Transportation, and Processing SYS-HISTO .372

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REVISION HISTORY					
Major or Minor?	VERSION	DATE	SUMMARY OF CHANGES	TRAINING REQUIRED? YES OR NO	
N/A	1.0	12/1/2018	New Format	N	
Minor	1.1	3/16/2021	Changed to System policy, changed title and wording to include the Premier Health system.	N	
Minor	1.3	8/2/2023	Changed to included Wayne Hospital and verbiage	N	
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EFFECTIVE					
Applicable only to System Policies/SOPs. See iPassport for documentation of initial Medical Directors authorization.					
Applicable site	LABORATORY SITE				
Yes	Atrium Medical Center				
Yes	Miami Valley Hospital				
Yes	Miami Valley Hospital North				
Yes	Miami Valley Hospital South				
Yes	Upper Valley Medical Center				
Yes	Wayne Hospital				

REVIEW REQUIRED					
YES	NO	CATEGORY			
	х	All CompuNet Staff			
х		Technical Management			
х		Non-Technical Management			
x		Histotechnician			
	х	Processors			
	х	Phlebotomists			
х		Other (list): Technical Assistants			

Purpose:

This policy describes how surgical specimens are handled and moved from Surgery area and other areas of Premier Health hospitals. This policy will also include outside facilities including doctor's office and surgical centers.

Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of the manager/team leader of each area mentioned in this policy to approve this plan.

It is the responsibility of all team members involved in each area to read, understand and perform this procedure as written. All staff is required to go to their direct manager if events deviate from this procedure.

Procedure:

Routine Specimens:

- 1. **Routine specimens** are tissues removed in a surgical procedure and placed into **10% formalin fixative**. Such specimens require no refrigeration or special handling.
- 2. Tissue removed from each surgical site is placed into a collection container that has room for the formalin to surround the tissue.
- 3. A patient label is placed on each specimen container. A corresponding site description should be on the requisition and label. (The site description gives location information about where the specimen was taken from e.g. Rt Breast, Skin ellipse Lt. Upper Arm etc.)
- 4. If multiple specimen sites are biopsied in the same surgical session, then the site description on the specimen container and description on the requisition must match. Specimens from the same case are frequently listed in chronological order, however, a FRESH specimen from the procedure could be sent to the lab prior to the remaining specimens so do not be disturbed if a specimen is numbered 2 or 3 with no other specimen's present. The remaining specimens from the case will arrive later.
- 5. A requisition(s) must contain the same information found on every specimen jar. Specimen labels should never be placed on the container lid. The label must be on the side of the container to minimize patient error in the lab.

Special studies:

- 1. <u>Frozen Section</u> Must be sent Fresh (no formalin) to the Path lab for immediate freeze and rapid diagnosis. For cases involving multiple specimens, surgery personnel verify that all specimens are present before the case is signed off by the lab personnel.
- 2. **Lymph nodes** Must be sent fresh to the Path lab unless the surgeon states otherwise.
- 3. <u>Lymphoma Workup/ FLOW</u> A fresh specimen is submitted in a sterile container. Compunet Lab personnel call for STAT courier and call MVH Histology department at 208-3595 to inform specimen is in route.
- 4. <u>Crystals</u> A fresh specimen wrapped in moist saline gauze is submitted in a sterile container. Lab personnel call for STAT courier and call MVH Histology department at 208-3595 to inform specimen is in route.
- 5. **Kidney/bladder stones** are sent dry in a sterile cup.
- 6. <u>Cultures</u> are sent to the Compunet Lab in appropriate collection containers.

- 7. **Foreign bodies** are collected in any appropriate container.
- 8. Breast Needle Localization:

Breast Needle Localization specimens are placed in or on an AccuGrid or a collection Box. (See photos) Once the specimen has been radiographed it cannot be moved (jarred, jiggled, handled roughly, turned upside down, opened etc.) Such movement could alter the orientation of the specimen and destroy the ability to sample the correct area of the tissue.

These specimens are always fresh and <u>must be transported to the lab for STAT Courier Pick Up.</u> Lab personnel will call for STAT courier and call MVH Histology department at #3595 to inform specimen is in route. The STAT courier must be directed to deliver specimen directly to the MVH Histology Department.



If you have any questions concerning surgical specimens call Histology at 208-3595 between the hours of 04:00 and 17:00. If after hours, ask for the On-Call Histotech or Pathologist for a resolution.

