

Specific Handling Instructions by Specimen Class:

Fresh Specimens:

- **Specimen Volume Requirements:** Entire specimen
- **Collection Container(s):** Appropriate for specimen size. Green “FRESH” sticker placed on the specimen container(s).
- **Fixative Type:** NA
 - **Amount of Fixative:** NA
- **Handling/Transport:** Deliver to Histology in biohazard bag. Upon arrival in Histology, announce that you have a fresh specimen and wait for verbal confirmation from lab staff. If nobody is in the lab, place the specimen in the refrigerator. Follow blue floor tape to the refrigerator.
- **Labeling:** All specimens are identified and labeled with printed Epic EHR label that includes first and last name, medical record number, and order number.
 - **Note:** If orders are not placed in Epic EHR, the laboratory requires a requisition that contains the patient's first and last name, medical record number, ordering provider, date and time of collection and the name of the individual collecting the specimen. This includes specimens from outside Seattle Children's Hospital system.
 - See SCH Policy [10978 \(Specimen Labeling\)](#) for complete information.
- **Clinical Info:** Because of the importance of clinical information for surgical pathology and cytopathology, this information must be available to the laboratory.

Specimens for Intra-Operative Consult:

- **Specimen Volume Requirements:** Entire specimen
- **Collection Container(s):** Appropriate for specimen size. Pink “FROZEN” sticker placed on specimen container(s).
- **Fixative Type:** NA
 - **Amount of Fixative:** NA
- **Handling/Transport:** Deliver to Histology in biohazard bag. When you arrive in Histology, announce that you have a frozen specimen and wait for verbal confirmation from lab staff.
- **Labeling:** All specimens are identified and labeled with printed Epic EHR label that includes first and last name, medical record number, and order number.
 - **Note:** If orders are not placed in Epic EHR, the laboratory requires a requisition that contains the patient's first and last name, medical record number, ordering provider, date and time of collection and the name of the individual collecting the specimen. This includes specimens from outside Seattle Children's Hospital system.
 - See SCH Policy [10978 \(Specimen Labeling\)](#) for complete information.
- **Clinical Info:** Because of the importance of clinical information for surgical pathology and cytopathology, this information must be available to the laboratory.

Biopsies:

- **Specimen Volume Requirements:** Entire specimen
- **Collection Container(s):** Appropriate for specimen size.
- **Fixative Type:** 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin
 - **Amount of Fixative:** Fully submerged. 10:1 ratio of fixative to tissue is preferred.
- **Handling/Transport:** Deliver to Histology in biohazard bag.
 - **Note:** Formalin CANNOT be sent through the Translogic tube system.
- **Labeling:** All specimens (blood, urine, stool, body fluids, tissues, etc.) are identified and labeled with Epic EHR label that includes first and last name, medical record number, and order number.
 - **Note:** If orders are not placed in Epic EHR, the laboratory requires a requisition that contains the patient's first and last name, medical record number, ordering provider, date and time of collection and the name of the individual collecting the specimen. This includes specimens from outside Seattle Children's Hospital system.
 - See SCH Policy [10978 \(Specimen Labeling\)](#) for complete information.
- **Clinical Info:** Because of the importance of clinical information for surgical pathology and cytopathology, this information must be available to the laboratory.

Large:

- **Specimen Volume Requirements:** Determined by type, availability, or surgeon discretion.
- **Collection container(s):** Appropriate for specimen size.
- **Fixative Type:** 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin
 - **Amount of Fixative:** Fully submerged. 10:1 ratio of fixative to tissue is preferred. A minimum of 4:1 is acceptable for large specimens.
- **Handling/Transport:** Place in PACU soiled utility room and log specimen in book.
- **Labeling:** All specimens (blood, urine, stool, body fluids, tissues, etc.) are identified and labeled with Epic EHR label that includes first and last name, medical record number, and order number.
 - **Note:** If orders are not placed in Epic EHR, the laboratory requires a requisition that contains the patient's first and last name, medical record number, ordering provider, date and time of collection and the name of the individual collecting the specimen. This includes specimens from outside Seattle Children's Hospital system.
 - See SCH Policy [10978 \(Specimen Labeling\)](#) for complete information.
- **Clinical Info:** Because of the importance of clinical information for surgical pathology and cytopathology, this information must be available to the laboratory.

Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL):

- **Specimen Volume Requirements:** Entire specimen
- **Collection Container:** Sterile Container
- **Fixative Type:** NA
 - **Amount of Fixative:** NA
- **Handling/Transport:** Deliver to Microbiology in biohazard bag.
- **Labeling:** All specimens are identified and labeled with printed Epic EHR label that includes first and last name, medical record number, and order number.
 - **Note:** If orders are not placed in Epic EHR, the laboratory requires a requisition that contains the patient's first and last name, medical record number, ordering provider, date and time of collection and the name of the individual collecting the specimen. This includes specimens from outside Seattle Children's Hospital system.
 - See SCH Policy [10978 \(Specimen Labeling\)](#) for complete information.
- **Clinical Info:** Because of the importance of clinical information for surgical pathology and cytopathology, this information must be available to the laboratory.

Other:

- Please consult directly with Pathology (ext. 7-2103).