

General Information

- Specimen delivery: Histology – Room 2205.12
- Refer to the [General Rules and Regulations of the Medical Staff](#) (page 24) for guidance on tissue examination requirements

Labeling Expectation

- Container labels must include:
 - A minimum of two patient identifiers
Options: Name (first & last) / DOB / MRN / Account
 - Identify the tissue site/location
- Resolution of labeling issues is required BEFORE we will process the specimen
- Corrections of patient identification require the collecting individual, or designee, to come to Histology to complete proper labeling

Orders

- Correct orders must be placed in Cerner prior to submitting tissues
- Incomplete orders will require resolution prior to processing and/or reporting

Key terminology

Fresh: Tissue is sent without fixative

- Must be delivered immediately
- Collection done at any location other than Adele Hall – refrigerate and transport immediately

Saline: Used with some fresh tissues to ensure they do not dry out before being processed in Histology

Frozen: Tissue is sent without fixative

- Tissue must be delivered immediately
- When delivered, handoff requires clinical staff to verbally communicate “Tissue for Frozen”; Histology and clinical staff will then verify the patient identification and specimen source

Fixative/Fixed: Tissue is placed in the appropriate fixative immediately upon collection

- Used to minimize cellular distortion and degeneration
- Stable at ambient temperature

Formalin: Most commonly used fixative

- 10% buffered
- Recommend tissue to fluid volume ratio is 1:15 – 1:20

Shared: The tissue has orders for additional testing; examples include microbiology culture, flow cytometry, or DNA analysis

Supplies – contact Histology

Collection Guidelines

Refer to the appropriate Test Catalog listing

Cerner Order

[Surgical Pathology](#)
[Muscle Tissue Request](#)
[Frozen Section](#)
[Cytology NON GYN](#)
[Cytology-GYN](#)
[Autopsy](#)