



UW Veterinary Care
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Department of Anatomic Pathology
Submission Guidelines for Surgical Pathology (Biopsy)

All specimens submitted for biopsy must be accompanied by a UWVC Surgical Pathology Request ([Link](#)) **ALL** essential information will optimize tissue interpretation. The following information **MUST** be completed:

1. Requesting referring Veterinarian information (Veterinarian name, clinic name, address, cell phone/fax and email)
2. Patient name, age and sex
3. Date and time of collection
4. Pertinent clinical history (physical exam findings, suspected diagnoses, previous biopsies, surgeries, prior therapies, physical exam findings, lab work, etc.)
5. Anatomic location of lesion: Indicate lesion location or distribution using the diagrams, photographs are always welcome
6. Tissue submitted

Collection Information

Place tissue in fixative as soon as possible. Preferred fixative is 10% neutral buffered formalin. Tissue to formalin ratio should be 1:10.

Very small specimens should be placed in a tissue cassette +/- foam pads to prevent specimen loss. Specimens should ideally be no thicker than 1 cm.

Large specimens like amputated limbs, may be submitted intact: double-bag the specimen in leak proof Bio-Hazard bags and ship cold using ice packs, do not freeze the specimen.

Do not ship formalin-fixed tissues and cytology or hematology slides in the same container.

Shipping Information

The packaging must consist of **3** components:

- A leak-proof non-breakable primary container(s), with a leak-proof and reinforce the seal with Parafilm or sealing tape (Figure 1).
- Package primary containers and enough absorbent material to absorb all liquids (in the event of a leak) in a secondary container (e.g., larger plastic container or sturdy Zip Lock™ bags, etc.) (Figure 2) The completed submission form should be enclosed in a separate sealed plastic bag.
- Use a sturdy outside container to contain the samples (cardboard box)



Figure 1. Examples of secured, leak proof sample jars using tape or parafilm.



Figure 2. Absorbent material placed between the primary sample containers and the secondary bag.

Shipping Address:

Attn: Clinical Pathology Laboratory

University of Wisconsin – Madison, School of Veterinary Medicine

Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, 2015 Linden Drive Madison, WI 53706 Phone: 608-263-7600

Result Reporting:

Please indicate on the submission form if you would like to receive results by Email or fax. For preliminary results or to contact in case of delays due to special stains and/or immunohistochemistry, please provide a contact email address or phone number.

Anatomic Pathology Faculty:

- David Gasper, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVP
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- Lorelei Clarke, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVP

Updated: 10/03/2023