

Specimens Not Required for Submission to Pathology for Examination

Exempt specimens are those not requiring examination by the Anatomical Pathology Laboratory. This list does not preclude sample submission to the laboratory, at the request of the attending clinician based on patient clinical history or tissue observation at the time of surgery.

Specimens exempted from submission to the laboratory must still be documented in the medical record by the clinician (or delegate). Disposal of exempt specimens is the responsibility of the collecting clinician /department in accordance with current medical waste disposal practices.

Adenoids (\leq 16 years of age)
Amputation of appendages (any) for peripheral vascular disease
Amputation of appendages (any) due to trauma
Amputation of supernumerary digits
Atheromatous plaque
Blood clot from traumatic intracranial hemorrhage
Blood clot from hematoma or thrombus – non CNS site
Total/partial joints from reconstructive non neoplastic surgeries: hip, knee, shoulders and ankles
Rib segments removed for surgical access
Ossicles - middle ear
Bone chips (arthrodesis and laminectomies)
Bunions
Calculi (renal) submit directly to Biochemistry for analysis
Cartilage/tendon/ligament - removed during non-neoplastic surgery including menisci and intervertebral discs (unless required for documentation)
Cataracts / lens
Cornea
Colostomy stoma for uncomplicated revisions of non-neoplastic processes
Foreskin (prepuce) newborn or \leq 16 years of age removed for religious or parental preference
Fat removed by liposuction
Fecalith
Foreign bodies except where medico-legal documentation required
Hemorrhoidal tissue
Hernia sacs
Hydroceles

Implants / Prostheses - breast, penile, dental and others removed during cosmetic or reconstructive procedure. Maybe submitted if documentation required for medico-legal
Intrauterine contraceptive devices
Medical devices: catheters, tubes, drains, stents, surgical mesh, gastric bands, etc.
Meningocele sac
Nails - finger or toe
Orthopaedic hardware: pins, plates, screws, artificial joints, and dental appliances etc.
Pacemakers
Placentas from single normal term pregnancy
Pregnancy terminations from therapeutic procedures
Tissue – Normal, excluding breast, removed during plastics or reconstructive procedures
Tissue - Pannus or Abdominal Lipectomy tissue removed during cosmetic or reconstructive procedure
Tissue - Scar (benign) from previous non oncology related procedure or trauma
Tissue - debridement tissue
Tissue - Dupytren's contracture tissue
Tissue - skin graft material
Tissue collected for biobank, transplant or research only
Teeth
Tonsils (≤ 16 years of age)
Vaginal wall tissue from repair procedures
Varicoceles
Varicose veins

Statement of Use: Best Practice Recommendation; approved by the Provincial Anatomical Pathology Advisory Group. This may be included in Health Authority / facility specific procedures.