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st. Joseph Healthcare
St. Joseph Hospital

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Last Approved 10/2024
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Owner Pamela Baker:
OPERATIONS
MANAGER
Policy Area LAB - PC
Applicability St. Joseph
Hospital Bangor

Surgically Removed Specimens NOT REQUIRED for Submission to Pathology

PURPOSE:

This procedure is intended to serve as a guide for surgically removed specimens not required for submission to Pathology

POLICY:

If the physician desires further documentation or evaluation of any of the above specimens, the laboratory will accept them and provide gross documentation and will do microscopic examination if requested and if feasible for the type of specimen submitted.

The following specimens may be exempt from laboratory examination:

- Amputated limbs due to trauma, non-union, and/or dysfunction
- Aspirated and/or impacted food or foreign material.
- Blood clot
- Bullets, missiles and weapons; removal must be recorded in the medical record.
- Bunions/claw toes/hammertoes.
- Cataract lenses, iris, and muscle fragments.
- Donor organs for transplantation.
- Ear ossicles (staples, incus, malleus).
- Extra digits.
- Eyelid tissue removed for cosmetic surgery only.
- Fat removed by liposuction.

- Foreign objects/foreign body.
- Grossly unremarkable foreskin from circumcision of a newborn.
- Intrauterine devices.
- Intravascular catheters
- Medical devices not contributing to patient illness, injury or death (e.g. gastrostomy tubes, stents, sutures).
- Meniscus.
- Mucosa, bone, and cartilage removed during plastic surgical procedures for non-neoplastic disease (ex. septoplasty and uvulectomy).
- Nasal septal cartilage and/or bone.
- Normal rib removed for surgical access (provided no history of malignancy). Normal skin from plastic surgery procedures.
- Oral hardware
- Orthopedic hardware.
- Pacemakers and other medical devices.
- Placentas without medical indications.
- Products of conception/fetus when family or clinician does not request an exam and there is no suspicion of ectopic pregnancy or anomalies
- Surgical specimens obtained from an arthroscopic knee procedure where documentation exists of the pathologic changes confirming the indications for the procedure and the presence of disease, (ex. permanent photographic or video record).
- Teeth, removal must be recorded in the medical record.
- Tissue from acromio-clavicular joint surgery.
- Tissue from rotator cuff repair.
- Tissue removed from joint replacement surgery, for osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and reconstructive purposes.
- Tissue such as ligamentum flavum, intervertebral disc fragments, and bone removed during routine spinal surgery
- Toenails and fingernails that are grossly unremarkable.
- Traumatically amputated digits.
- Vaginal mucosa for repair.
- Varicose veins

REFERENCES:

<https://dahlchase.host4kb.com/article/AA-00275/33/Dahl-Chase-Directory-of-Services/Surgical-Pathology-Testing/Surgically-Removed-Specimens-Not-Required-for-Submission-to-Pathology.html>

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Approval for MEC	Sandra Levesque: MANAGER MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE	10/2024
Surgical	Jessica Degrasse: SENIOR DIRECTOR SURGICAL SERVICES	09/2024
ED	John Lee Jr: CLINICAL DIRECTOR EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESPIRATO	03/2024
Director of the LAB	Billie Jo Sickler: DIRECTOR LABORATORY SERVICES	03/2024

Applicability

Bangor St. Joseph Hospital

History

Sent for re-approval by Porter, Belinda: MEDICAL QUALITY DATA COORDINATOR on 3/6/2024, 5:01PM EST

Policy's approval flow needed to be updated, was not ready to go live

Draft saved by Porter, Belinda: MEDICAL QUALITY DATA COORDINATOR on 3/6/2024, 5:04PM EST

Sent for re-approval by Porter, Belinda: MEDICAL QUALITY DATA COORDINATOR on 3/6/2024, 5:04PM EST

Sent for re-approval by Porter, Belinda: MEDICAL QUALITY DATA COORDINATOR on 3/6/2024, 5:07PM EST

Sent for re-approval by Porter, Belinda: MEDICAL QUALITY DATA COORDINATOR on 3/6/2024, 5:17PM EST

policy locked

Last Approved by Sickler, Billie Jo: DIRECTOR LABORATORY SERVICES on 3/7/2024, 7:35AM EST

new policy to meet regulatory requirements bjs

Last Approved by Lee Jr, John: SENIOR DIRECTOR CLINICAL OPERATIONS on 3/26/2024, 9:03AM EDT

Not sure why I am on the approval workflow.

Last Approved by Degrasse, Jessica: SENIOR DIRECTOR SURGICAL SERVICES on 9/9/2024, 12:12PM EDT

Last Approved by Levesque, Sandra: MANAGER MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE on 10/15/2024, 9:09AM EDT

Approved by SJB MEC 10/9/24

Scheduled for activation by Levesque, Sandra: MANAGER MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE on 10/15/2024, 9:09AM EDT

This version is scheduled to wait 1 day after final approval before being made active, so is scheduled to become active on 10/16/2024 at approximately 4:00 AM EST.

Activated by Levesque, Sandra: MANAGER MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE on 10/16/2024, 4:03AM EDT

This version waited the scheduled 1 days after final approval by Sandra Levesque: MANAGER MEDICAL STAFF OFFICE on 10/15/2024 and was automatically made active.

Responsibilities transferred to new account by Porter, Belinda: MEDICAL QUALITY DATA COORDINATOR on 2/4/2025, 11:19AM EST

The previous owner's account (*Stephanie Williams: LABORATORY OPERATIONS MANAGER/ OUTREACH COORDINATOR*) was deactivated, so all of their responsibilities were transferred to *Pamela Baker: OPERATIONS MANAGER*.