

Advanced Pathology Laboratory

Quality Assurance: Specimen Procurement and Delivery

1. Specimen procurement encompasses the steps from removal of a specimen to its acceptance by the Pathology Laboratory. Procurement of a specimen for histologic evaluation consists of:
 - a. Correct identification
 - b. Completed pathology requisition
 - c. Proper fixative or specimen handling instructions
 - d. Prompt delivery to the laboratory

2. The technician/clerk who accessions specimens in Lab will not accept specimens that are inappropriately labeled, incompletely labeled, or without the proper requisition. The technician will attempt to correct the deficiency before the specimen is accessed.

DOCUMENTATION:

A record is kept of any specimens refused and sent back to the place of origin and what was lacking according to the procurement protocol. These records are reviewed periodically to determine when specimen identification problems are correctable. (See Rejection of Specimens Procedure).