

## Histopathology Explanations

Helping you understand how your tissue samples are processed

We offer these primary order selections: Single Tissue, Complex Tissue, Skin Punch Biopsies, Limb Dissection and Necropsy. Tissues submitted in addition to the primary selection are charged as Additional. Please see following explanations and examples. As always, if you have any questions about the submissions or are in doubt about how you will be charged, please call the Laboratory for assistance.

### Reporting Options

**Mini Report** provides gross description, microscopic interpretation and comments.

**Full Report** provides gross description, microscopic *description* & interpretation and comments.

### Single Tissue

1-4 samples from one site (one surgical site or one organ type) where Length (L) + Width (W) + Height (H) totals less than 15 cm in aggregate. **L+W+H < 15 cm**

### Additional Single Tissue

Each additional site or each additional 4 samples from the same site, where **L+W+H < 15 cm**

### Order Options

**400** Mini Report - Single Tissue

**401** Full Report - Single Tissue

**441** x \_\_\_ Additional Single Tissue-Mini Report

**419** x \_\_\_ Additional Single Tissue-Full Report

<i>Examples of Submissions</i>	<i>Mini Report</i>	<i>Full Report</i>	<i>Explanations</i>
<b>1 Mass from Right Elbow</b> 4 cm (L) + 2 cm (W) + 3 cm (H) = 9 cm <b>9 cm &lt; 15 cm</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>1 site &lt; 15 cm</b>
<b>4 Intestine Samples</b> Aggregate: 4 cm (L) + 1 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = <b>6 cm &lt; 15 cm</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>1 site aggregate &lt; 15 cm</b>
<b>6 Gingival Samples</b> Samples 1-4, Aggregate: 2 cm (L) + 2 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = 5 cm <b>5 cm &lt; 15 cm</b> Samples 5-6, Aggregate: 2 cm (L) + 1 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = 4 cm <b>4 cm &lt; 15 cm</b>	<b>400 &amp; 441</b>	<b>401 &amp; 419</b>	<b>All samples from 1 site. samples 1-4 aggregate &lt; 15 cm, plus samples 5-6 aggregate &lt; 15 cm</b>
<b>1 Skin Ellipse from Left Thigh</b> 3 cm (L) + 1 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = 5 cm <b>5 cm &lt; 15 cm</b> <b>plus 2 Skin Samples From Right Thigh</b> Aggregate: 1 cm (L) + 1 cm (W) + 2 (H) = 4 cm <b>4 cm &lt; 15 cm</b>	<b>400 &amp; 441</b>	<b>401 &amp; 419</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> site: left thigh &lt; 15 cm plus 2<sup>nd</sup> site: right thigh &lt; 15 cm</b>
<b>3 Liver Core Biopsies</b> Aggregate: 0.3 cm (L) + 0.1 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = <b>1.4 cm &lt; 15 cm</b> <b>plus 2 Spleen Samples</b> Aggregate: 2 cm (L) + 1 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = <b>4 cm &lt; 15 cm</b> <b>plus 1 Lymph Node</b> 1 cm (L) + 0.4 cm (W) + 0.3 cm (H) = 1.7 cm <b>1.7 cm &lt; 15 cm</b>	<b>400 &amp; 441 x 2</b>	<b>401 &amp; 419 x 2</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> site: liver aggregate &lt; 15 cm plus 2<sup>nd</sup> site: spleen aggregate &lt; 15 cm plus 3<sup>rd</sup> site: lymph node &lt; 15 cm</b>

### Complex Tissue

- ◆ 1-4 samples from one site (one surgical site or one organ type) where Length (L) + Width (W) + Height (H) totals greater than 15 cm in aggregate. **L+W+H > 15 cm**
- ◆ Each entire organ (e.g. brain, heart, lung, spleen, liver, gallbladder, pancreas, 1 kidney, 1 eyeball, 1 ear canal, 1 mammary chain, 1-2 ovaries or testicles)
- ◆ Each sample requiring decalcification (1 digit, tail, mandible, maxilla)

Please Note: Multiple Complex Tissues are not considered Additional. Each Complex Tissue will be charged a Complex fee. However, Additional Single Tissues or Additional Skin Punch Biopsies (test codes 441 or 419) may follow a Complex Tissue selection. Please see examples below.

#### Order Options

**463** x \_\_\_ Mini Report - Complex Tissue

**403** x \_\_\_ Full Report - Complex Tissue

<i>Examples of Submissions</i>	<i>Mini Report</i>	<i>Full Report</i>	<i>Explanations</i>
<b>1 Skin Ellipse from Left Chest</b> 9 cm (L) + 7 cm (W) + 3 cm (H) = 19 cm <b>19 cm &gt; 15 cm</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>1 site &gt; 15 cm</b>
<b>1 Whole Heart, 1 Whole Lung, 2 Whole Kidneys, plus 3 Liver Samples plus 1 Spleen Sample</b> Aggregate: 3 cm (L) + 2 cm (W) + 1 cm (H) = <b>6 cm &lt; 15 cm</b> 4 cm (L) + 4 cm (W) + 2 cm (H) = 10 cm <b>10 cm &lt; 15 cm</b>	<b>463</b> x 4 & <b>441</b> x 2	<b>403</b> x 4 & <b>419</b> x 2	<b>4 whole organs plus 1st additional site (liver) &lt; 15 cm plus 2nd additional site (spleen) &lt; 15 cm</b>
<b>1 Digit, plus 2 Skin Punches</b>	<b>463</b> & <b>441</b>	<b>403</b> & <b>419</b>	<b>1 digit (complex tissue) plus 2 additional punches</b>

### Skin Punch Biopsies

1-4 skin punches (1-8 mm)

#### Additional Skin Punch Biopsies

Each additional 4 skin punches

Please Note: Fine needle/Tru-Cut/Endoscopy orders now fall under the Single Tissue selection.

#### Order Options:

**423** Mini Report - Skin Punch Biopsy

**425** Full Report - Skin Punch Biopsy

**441** x \_\_\_ Additional Skin Punch Biopsies-Mini Report

**419** x \_\_\_ Additional Skin Punch Biopsies-Full Report

<i>Examples of Submissions</i>	<i>Mini Report</i>	<i>Full Report</i>	<i>Explanations</i>
<b>3 Skin Punches</b> 0.8 cm x 0.3 cm each	<b>423</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>1-4 skin punches</b>
<b>7 Skin Punches</b> 0.4 cm x 0.6 cm each	<b>423</b> & <b>441</b>	<b>425</b> & <b>419</b>	<b>4 skin punches plus 3 additional punches</b>

### Limb Dissection

**407** Full Report Only. Gross and microscopic description of soft tissue and decalcified bone, margin evaluation, microscopic interpretation and comments.

### Necropsy

**406** Variable pricing and instructions. Please call the Lab.

## Recommendations for Histology Submissions

### **Sending Samples:**

- ◆ Provide history and any previous case numbers on Test Request to assist diagnosis.
- ◆ Place specimens in adequate amount of formalin; 10:1 Formalin:Tissue ratio is recommended.
- ◆ Please avoid placing specimens in skinny-necked bottles; they are often difficult to remove from these after fixation.
- ◆ Limbs should be sent fresh.
- ◆ Spleens that can reach the lab within 24-hours and do not fit in a large enough leak-proof formalin container should be sent fresh, in entirety. If the fresh sample will be in transit longer than 24-hours, areas of interest should be appropriately sampled, fixed for 24-hours, and submitted, while the remaining spleen can be sent fresh (on ice in a leak proof container) or held refrigerated or frozen at the clinic in case further sampling is needed for definitive diagnosis.
- ◆ Make sure the bottle/container lids are securely tightened. Recommend tightly wrapped Parafilm M around container lid if long distance transport is required.
- ◆ Recommend using sutures if orientation of the specimen is required (e.g. 1 suture = cranial, 2 sutures = caudal).

### **Multiple Sites:**

- ◆ Describe site(s) and number of specimens submitted on TR and formalin containers.
- ◆ Specimens from different surgical sites should be separated and labeled.

### **Small Samples:**

- ◇ *Preferred method:* Tissues from each site separated in labeled mesh cassettes or biopsy cassettes (wrapped in filter paper) and placed in formalin container(s).
- ◇ Alternatively, place tissues in separately labeled bottles/tubes. Placing tissues from intestine or skin on small foil sheet and then into formalin container is helpful; most remain on foil, rather than floating freely.

### **Large Samples:**

- ◇ *Preferred method:* Tissues from each site separated in labeled formalin containers.
- ◇ Alternatively, sutures may be used (e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> site = 1 suture, 2<sup>nd</sup> site = 2 sutures, etc.). Be sure to write the system you use on the TR.