

MODULE

Histology and Cytology



Notes

4

RECEIVING OF SURGICAL SPECIMENS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

In the laboratory setting, numerous histological specimens are received throughout the day for testing. It is important to maintain a systematic approach to ensure that all samples are accounted for and are being received and tested appropriately. Without it, there is a potential to misplace or lose samples.



OBJECTIVES

After reading this lesson, you will be able to

- explain the process of receiving surgical specimens
- describe preparation of gross room
- receive the samples, label the sample and store.

4.2 RECEIVING OF SURGICAL SPECIMENS

At the time of receiving the specimens, following points should be checked and these points must match between requisition form and label on the sample container

1. Name of the patient
2. Sex and age of patient
3. Registration no, OPD or indoor number
4. Type of sample like appendix or lymph node

After matching the above points carefully, accession number of the Histopathology laboratory should be given on the requisition form and on the sample container like it has been depicted in the form and sample bottle

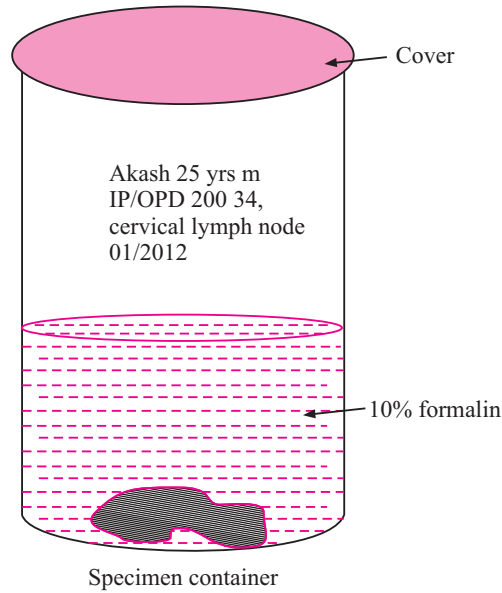


Fig. 4.1: Specimen container

A register should be maintained for record and for future reference

Following points should be noted on the register (sample given)

- 1 Date
- 2 Accession number which was given by the pathology department
- 3 Patients name, age, sex
- 4 Patients registration number/ OPD/ indoor number
- 5 Type of sample
- 6 Number of samples received from one patient
- 7 Remarks / final diagnosis which may be entered later on

After receiving the samples the consultant should be informed for grossing. If grossing to be done after some time, fixative should be put in all the samples to prevent autolysis of the specimen.

4.3 PREPARATION OF GROSS ROOM

The routine work associated with a surgical pathology specimen includes gross and microscopic examination. Proper preservation of tissues and processing of the tissue are the most important aspects for correct diagnosis.

The size and features of the gross room depends on the number of specimens and type of institution. Gross room should be well illuminated and ventilated. It should have a gross station and racks to keep the specimen in order of accession number.



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Gross station – It should have ventilated hood.

1. Cutting board placed inside the metal box designed in such a fashion that all the fluids should flow directly into the sink
2. Ready access to sink with hot & cold water
3. Formalin – stock and 10% buffered formalin
4. Box of instruments containing
 - (a) Scissors
 - (b) Forceps
 - (c) Malleable probe
 - (d) Scalpel handle with disposable blades
 - (e) Long knife
 - (f) Scale
 - (g) Pins for attaching the specimens to corked surface if required
5. Containers with different fixatives
6. Bone cutter
7. Large disposal bin
8. Box with cassettes and labels

These are the essential items. Depending upon the pathology service being rendered to the institution more sophisticated items may be added.

Apart from the above items following items may be of help in keeping the records

1. Photographic facility
2. Refrigerator
3. Balance to weigh the gross specimen
4. X-ray view box
5. Other equipments for tissue bank facility

Sample Copy Receiving Register

Date 01.08.2012

Acc. No.	Name	Age	Sex	Registration No.	Type of specimen	Remarks / Diagnosis
01/2012	Akash	25 yrs	M	20034	Cervical Lymph Node	
02/2013	Divya	30 Yrs	F	20049	Fallopian tubes	

Receiving of Surgical Specimens

Histopathology Form (Sample Copy)

Acc. No – 01/2012			
Akash	25 yrs	M	OPD Registraion
Indoor Registration 20034			
Clinical Diagnosis – Tuberculosis – Tuberculosis lymphadenitis			
Clinical Complaints			
Radiological Findings			
Name of Surgeon	Signature	Previous biopsy No. Date of colletion: 1.8.2012	
Type of specimen – Cervical lymph node			
Any special request / remark			

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WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT

- How to receive and handle the surgical specimens. It is paramount to the success of the diagnosis of the specimen. High volumes, multiple steps and multiple human interactions with specimens can create confusion. Therefore, it is important to follow standard procedures which will help in smooth function of the laboratory.



TERMINAL QUESTIONS

1. Write briefly about receiving and labelling of the specimen.
2. How do you prepare a gross room for examination of the specimen.