

Overview

Useful For

Obtaining a rapid, expert opinion on unprocessed specimens referred by the pathologist

This test is **not useful** for suspected hematologic disorders

Testing Algorithm

An interpretation will be provided by Mayo staff pathologists within a formal pathology report that is sent to the referring pathologist.

This test should be used when submitting lung tissue for immunofluorescence, cardiac biopsies, enucleated eye specimens, iris, conjunctiva, cornea and other small eye biopsies for Mayo pathology consultation/interpretation.

Appropriate stains and other ancillary testing may be performed and charged separately.

This test is not intended for suspected hematologic disorders.

Note: Tests requested by the referring physician (eg, immunostains, molecular studies, etc.) may not be performed if they are deemed to be unnecessary by the reviewing Mayo Clinic pathologist. For all pathology consultations, ancillary testing is ordered at the discretion of the Mayo pathologist.

See [Pathology Consultation Ordering Algorithm](#) in Special Instructions.

Special Instructions

- [Pathology Consultation Ordering Algorithm](#)

Highlights

The consultative practice strives to provide the highest quality of diagnostic pathology, in all areas of expertise, aiming to utilize only those ancillary tests that support the diagnosis in a cost-effective manner, and to provide a rapid turnaround time for diagnostic results.

Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
LEV1P	Level 1 Gross only	No	No
LEV2P	Level 2 Gross and microscopic	No	No
LEV3P	Level 3 Gross and microscopic	No	No
LEV4P	Level 4 Gross and microscopic	No	No
LEV5P	Level 5 Gross and microscopic	No	No
LEV6P	Level 6 Gross and microscopic	No	No

Method Name

Medical Interpretation

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Varies

Ordering Guidance

For a pathology consultation on paraffin embedded tissue and slides only (ie, no wet tissue being sent to be processed), order PATHC / Pathology Consultation.

Additional Testing Requirements

Lung biopsy specimens: Immunofluorescence on lung tissue must be ordered in conjunction with this test.

Vitreous fluid/aqueous humor specimens: Call 800-533-1710 to request an Expedite on this order since vitreous fluid will have no fixative and needs to reach the laboratory ASAP.

Shipping Instructions

Vitreous fluid/aqueous humor specimens: ship overnight Attention: Ophthalmic Pathology Working Group.

Attach the green pathology address label to the outside of the transport container.

Necessary Information

- 1. Collection date and patient date of birth are required. All specimens must be labeled with specimen type.**
- Although a complete pathology report is not expected to be submitted with the specimen, **a preliminary pathology report is required in order to ensure that the specimen is known to a referring pathologist.** The name and phone number of the ordering pathologist and a brief history are essential to achieve a consultation fully relevant to the ordering physician's needs.
- 3. The referring pathologist's name and phone number are required.**
- All specimens, patient history, and requests should be clearly labeled with correct patient identifiers and pathology accession/case number.

Specimen Required

Specimen Type: Lung biopsy

Supplies:

- Pathology Packaging Kit (T554)
- Formalin, 10% (T118)
- Michel's Transport Media for Immunofluorescent Testing on Tissue (T321)

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

- Submit portion of lung tissue in 10% neutral buffered formalin for light microscopy processing. Alternatively, submit a representative hematoxylin and eosin (H and E) slide from the light microscopy sample along with the tissue in Michel's transport media. Pathology Packaging Kit can be used to submit H and E slide.
- Place a portion of the unfixed lung tissue in Michel's transport media for immunofluorescence.

Specimen Type: Cardiac biopsy

Supplies:

- Pathology Packaging Kit (T554)
- Formalin, 10% (T118)
- Michel's Transport Media for Immunofluorescent Testing on Tissue (T321)
- Electron Microscopy Kit (T660)

-Gluta (Trumps) (T130)

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. For ideal analysis, collect 4 to 6 biopsy specimens and submit all in 10% neutral buffered formalin unless electron microscopy (EM) is requested.
2. If EM is needed, submit at least 1 biopsy into 2.5% to 3% buffered glutaraldehyde preservative using the Electron Microscopy Kit along with the formalin biopsy specimens. If formalin biopsy specimens are not available, light microscopic slides would also be acceptable.

Additional Information: If the question is drug toxicity, storage disease, or if the patient is younger than 25 years old, send at least 1 biopsy specimen in 2.5% to 3% buffered glutaraldehyde in case EM is needed for diagnosis.

Specimen Type: Cardiac explant

Supplies:

- Pathology Packaging Kit (T554)
- Refrigerate/Ambient Shipping Box, 5 lb (T329)

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. Fix entire explant specimen in formalin for a minimum of 24 hours.
2. Following fixation, lightly wrap specimen in formalin-soaked paper towel, place in a leak-proof sealable bag with a small amount of formalin, seal, and ship ambient in a sturdy shipping container (ie, Refrigerate/Ambient Shipping Box, 5 lb).

Additional Information: Include the last pretransplantation echocardiogram with report and images as well as all other relevant clinical documents.

Specimen Type: Enucleated eye

Supplies:

- Pathology Packaging Kit (T554)
- Formalin - 10% Histo Prep, 45 mL (T117)

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. Immediately after removal, place specimen in approximately 300 mL of 10% neutral buffered formalin.
2. Enucleated eye should not be opened or punctured.
3. After 48 hours in the originating laboratory, the specimen should be transferred from the larger, 300-mL container to a smaller container with fixative (Formalin - 10% Histo Prep, 45 mL) to be shipped without risk of leakage.

Specimen Type: Iris, conjunctiva, cornea, and other small biopsies from eye

Supplies:

- Pathology Packaging Kit (T554)
- Formalin - 10% Histo Prep, 45 mL (T117)

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. Obtain biopsy.
2. Place iris, conjunctiva, cornea, and other small biopsies on a paper mount (a piece of filter paper or other porous paper). This helps to keep the specimen from curling when it is fixed.
3. Immediately but gently place specimen (on the paper mount) into 10% formalin, approximately 20 times the volume of the biopsy (Formalin - 10% Histo Prep, 45 mL).
4. Placing sutures at the margins of resection with accompanying explanatory draft will help orientation of the specimen in the lab, in cases where margins are important.

Specimen Type: Vitreous fluid/Aqueous humor

Supplies:

-Pathology Packaging Kit (T554)

-Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T465)

Specimen Volume: Entire specimen

Collection Instructions:

1. Obtain liquid specimen.
2. Place the liquid (vitreous or aqueous) concentrate into a small tube with a screw-top cap. Seal the tube tightly.
3. Put the specimen immediately on a refrigerated cool pack (not dry ice or frozen cool pack).
4. If a washing (diluted) is available, it can also be sent in similar manner.

Specimen Stability Information: Refrigerated

Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Cardiovascular Test Request](#) (T724) with the specimen.

Reject Due To

No specimen should be rejected.

Specimen Minimum Volume

See Specimen Required

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Varies	Ambient (preferred)		
	Frozen		
	Refrigerated		

Clinical & Interpretive**Clinical Information**

Mayo Clinic Rochester is staffed by pathologists whose expertise and special interests cover the entirety of Pathology, from surgical pathology with all of its respective subspecialty areas, to Hematopathology, Renal Pathology, and Dermatopathology.

Consultation services are provided for difficult diagnostic problems. Consultation cases may be sent by a referring pathologist and directed to one of the pathologists who is an expert in the given area or directed more broadly to the subspecialty group. Cases are frequently shared and sometimes transferred between the pathologists, as deemed appropriate for the type of case or diagnostic problem encountered. Emphasis is placed on prompt and accurate results. Materials received are reviewed in conjunction with the clinical history provided, laboratory findings, radiographic findings (if applicable), and sending pathologist's report or letter. If additional special stains or studies are needed, the results are included in the final interpretive report. In some cases, electron microscopy and other special procedures are utilized as required.

A variety of ancillary studies are available (eg, cytochemistry, immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, electron microscopy, mass spectrometry, cytogenetics, and molecular genetics) to aid in establishing a diagnosis. These ancillary studies are often expensive and labor intensive, and are most efficiently utilized and interpreted in the context of the morphologic features. The goal is to provide the highest possible level of diagnostic consultative service, while trying to

balance optimal patient care with a cost-conscious approach to solving difficult diagnostic problems.

Reference Values

The laboratory will provide a pathology consultation.

Interpretation

Results of the consultation are reported in a formal pathology report, which includes a description of ancillary test results (if applicable) and an interpretive comment. When the case is completed, results may be communicated by a phone call.

The formal pathology report is faxed.

Cautions

[Appropriate tissue sampling and fixation are required in order to make a diagnosis.](#)

Performance**Method Description**

All requests will be processed as a consultation case first. Special studies will be performed only if deemed to be diagnostically indicated. If the need for enzyme cytochemical stains, immunophenotyping, and/or immunohistochemical stains is anticipated, appropriate specimen requirements should be followed as indicated.

PDF Report

Supplemental

Performing Laboratory Location

Rochester

Fees & Codes**Test Classification**

Not Applicable

CPT Code Information

88300 (if appropriate)

88302 (if appropriate)

88304 (if appropriate)

88305 (if appropriate)

88307 (if appropriate)

88309 (if appropriate)