



Procedure for Handling Tissue for Light Microscopy, Immunofluorescent Histology, and Electron Microscopy

Biopsy specimens are typically obtained by percutaneous needle biopsy, and more rarely, by “open” wedge biopsy.

1. Ideally, take a minimum of **3 biopsy cores**.
2. Assess to ensure they contain cortex/glomeruli.
3. If tissue cores cannot be assessed immediately and need short-term transport for assessment/allocation (ie, from biopsy suite to pathology), keep the tissue moist with a small amount of saline or place on a saline soaked Telfa.

Do not use either of the fixatives for short-term transport and **do not** allow the tissue to dry out.

Allocate the 3 cores as follows:

- **Place 2 cores in 10% neutral buffered formalin.** Tissue is used for both light microscopy (LM) and electron microscopy (EM).
 - Formalin is the preferred fixative for the EM core, but glutaraldehyde/Trumps fixative is also acceptable.
- **Place 1 core in Michel’s Transport/Zeus preservative.**
 - Used for immunofluorescence (IF) staining
 - The IF specimen should be a minimum of 0.6 cm in length and contain approximately 5 or more glomeruli.

Required Information

The following **is required** to be included with the specimen prior to shipping. Failure to provide this information will result in delayed processing.

1. The patient’s full first and last name **and** a second unique identifier **must** be present on each of the specimen containers.
 - a. The name on the containers must match the paperwork being sent with the specimens.
 - b. Second unique identifiers include patient medical record, specimen/accession number or order number, or patient’s birth date.
2. Complete the “Renal Biopsy Patient Information” form included with the Renal Biopsy Kit **or** provide Electronic Health/Medical Record printouts that include **all** the following information:
 - a. **MCL Client Account Number**
 - b. **Name and phone number of the referring nephrologist/pathologist or ordering provider**
 - c. **A copy of recent nephrology consultation notes, history and physical progress notes, and laboratory test results, including serologies** (eg, renal/kidney function panel, antinuclear antibodies, anti-glomerular basement membrane antibodies, C3/C4, serum or urine protein electrophoresis, serum albumin, hepatitis/HIV screen, urinalysis)

Shipping Information

1. Ship biopsies ambient. Do not place on ice, dry ice, or freeze.
2. Place all required paperwork/information in the pocket of the biohazard bag containing the biopsies.
3. Ship to your corresponding testing location:

Shipping address: Mayo Clinic Laboratories – Rochester
3050 Superior Drive NW
Attn: Pathology – SDSC Building
Rochester, MN 55905

Mayo Clinic Laboratories – Jacksonville
Stabile North 2nd Floor
4461 Mellish Drive, Stabile Building N
Jacksonville, FL 32224