Inspector Instructions:

	• Sampling of histology safety policies and procedures • Sampling of microwave reproducibility and ventilation checks • Sampling of thermocycler monitoring records
	• Location of automated tissue processor • Storage cabinets
	• How frequently do you change solutions in the tissue processor? How is the timeframe for changing solutions determined? • How does your laboratory prevent cross-contamination of paraffin sections in the flotation bath? • How often do you decontaminate your cryostat? • How does your laboratory ensure the individual wells of the thermocycler are maintaining accurate temperature?

BAP.06844 Automated Tissue Processor **Phase II**

Each open (ie, generative of flammable vapors into the ambient workspace) automated tissue processor is operated at least five feet (1.5 m) from the storage of combustible materials and from the paraffin dispenser.

NOTE: Tissue processors that operate as a closed system confine ignitable vapor hazards within the processor and thus do not pose a hazard requiring five feet of separation.

Each open (ie, generative of flammable vapors into the ambient workspace) automated tissue processor must be located at least five feet from the storage of combustible materials unless separated by one-hour fire-resistive construction. Flammable and combustible liquids must not be positioned near sources of heat or ignition. At least five feet must separate each open system tissue processor from the paraffin dispenser.

BAP.06846 Microtome Knife Storage **Phase II**

Microtome knives are stored in original containers or by some other means to avoid personnel injury or equipment damage.

BAP.06851 Microtome Maintenance **Phase I**

Microtomes and microtome knives are clean and well-maintained.

NOTE:
1. *Microtomes must be clean, properly lubricated, and without excessive play in the advance mechanism*
2. *Knives must be sharp and free of nicks*

NOTE: The following four requirements apply to microwave devices used in the histology section.

BAP.06854 Microwave Usage **Phase I**

Microwave devices are used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

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BAP.06856 Microwave Monitoring **Phase I**

Microwave devices (used for any purpose) are monitored for reproducibility at least annually.

NOTE: For some devices, reproducibility may be evaluated by monitoring the temperatures of identical samples after microwave processing. For those microwave devices (particularly those incorporated into histology processing equipment) that use temperature-independent methods to evaluate reproducibility, the reproducibility must be assessed following instrument manufacturer's instructions.

The microwave device must be tested for radiation leakage if there is visible damage to the device. A description of the specific damage along with the result of the test must be recorded.

Evidence of Compliance:

- ✓ Records of monitoring the diagnostic quality of specimens processed using microwaves **AND**
- ✓ Records of reproducibility testing for microwave use

BAP.06858 Microwave Container Venting **Phase I**

All containers used in microwave devices are vented or are used in compliance with manufacturer's instructions for the microwave instrumentation used.

NOTE: Venting of containers is necessary so that processing occurs at atmospheric pressure, to prevent explosion. For procedures using pressure above that of the atmosphere, specialized containers must be used, with strict adherence to manufacturer's instructions.

BAP.06865 Microwave Venting **Phase I**

Microwave devices are properly vented and the effectiveness of ventilation is monitored at least annually.

NOTE: Some types of microwave devices need to be operated in an appropriate ventilation hood to contain airborne chemical contaminants and potentially infectious agents. Before operation of the microwave device, flammable and corrosive reagents must be removed from the hood to prevent fire or chemical damage to the electronic components of the device. Microwave devices used outside a fume hood must have an integral fume extractor certified by the manufacturer for use in a clinical laboratory.

This checklist item does not apply to microwave devices that are designed by the manufacturer to operate without venting. It also does not apply if non-hazardous reagents (as defined in the safety data sheets) and non-infectious specimens (eg, paraffin specimens) are used in the device.

Evidence of Compliance:

- ✓ Records of annual evaluation of ventilation effectiveness

BAP.07110 Automated Stainer **Phase II**

The biorepository changes the solutions in automated stainers following a defined schedule.

NOTE: Solutions must be changed at intervals appropriate for the biorepository's workload. Cleaning of the stainers must be recorded when performed.