## Histopathology/Cytopathology/Neuropathology

The Histopathology Department provides an extensive Histopathology service, including supporting the symptomatic breast service, urology and gastrointestinal units. The department provides a diagnostic Renal Pathology service in addition to supporting the renal transplant service, including an Out of Hours service. Electron Microscopy, Cytopathology and an Autopsy service are also provided by the Histopathology laboratory. The Non-Gynae Cytopathology service includes provision of assistance and support for the Fine Needle Aspirate and endoscopic ultra sound services.

The Neuropathology section provides a diagnostic service for Neurosurgery and Neurology (including paediatric neurology and paediatric neurosurgery). A rapid intra-operative service is provided for the diagnosis of intracranial and spinal lesions including brain tumour. A range of investigations are available for the interpretation of muscle and nerve biopsies. In addition Neuropathology is the national centre for the CJD Surveillance Unit. A Neuropathology autopsy service is also available and provides pathologic diagnosis in a variety of conditions including dementia and other neurodegenerative disorders. A CSF cytology service is also provided.

Other diagnostic services are provided on a consultative basis and include CSF analysis for 14.3.3 protein.

### Frozen Sections

A ***frozen section*** service is offered between 09.00 – 17.00. Twenty Four hours notice should be given to the laboratory, prior to a frozen section. Frozen sections outside usual working hours may be provided by prior arrangement with the Consultant Pathologist.

Specimens from patients with TB, HIV or Hepatitis B or C infection should not be sent for frozen section. If such a suspicion is present, the medical staff concerned must inform laboratory personnel in order to safeguard the laboratory staff from risk of infection.

In addition, if the laboratory inadvertently processes such specimens, a decontamination procedure of the equipment required for frozen sections must be carried out. Decontamination of this equipment takes 12 hours. During this time no further frozen sections can be performed.

Frozen section reports are delivered to theatre, usually via the intercom. A written report is available following subsequent routine processing of the specimen.

### Other Urgent Specimens

### Other urgent specimens are dealt with on an individual basis. The laboratory should be contacted directly with these requests in order to ensure that they are handled appropriately. Overuse of the urgent service will adversely affect the turnatound times for all urgent requests. Reports

The authorized Reports are available through PIPE or by phoning the Histopathology Office at 2632/2636/2687/2154 or the Neuropathology Office at 2631 or the Renal Pathology Office at 2008. Reports are not available in the laboratory. Unauthorized reports and any issues of clinical concern can be discussed with the consultant involved in the case for any clinical advice.

### Specimen Requirements For Histopathology

The following is a guideline on the requirements of the various specimen types and the appropriate manner in which they should be delivered to the laboratory. This ensures the integrity of the specimen for laboratory investigations.

| **Tissue Type** | **Fixative Required** | **Comment** |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Specimen for Frozen Section. | Send fresh to the laboratory -  immediately. | 24 hours notice of Frozen sections should be given where possible. Contact the Histopathology Lab Ext 2353.  Details supplied with the specimen must include a bleep number or theatre intercom to deliver report to. |  |
| Renal biopsies | Send in saline (Dublin Hospitals)  Send in Formalin/Zeus (Regional Centres) (full details in section 1.1.7) | Please inform Renal Office Ext. 2765 of specimen. The Main Histology Lab can be contacted @ 2353. The EM lab on 8633. |  |
| Lymph nodes  (for lymphoma diagnostics) | Send fresh to the laboratory -immediately. | Please supply all relevant clinical details. |  |
| Solid Tumours  (Colon, Breast, Lung etc.) | Send fresh to the laboratory -  immediately. | Please supply all relevant clinical details. |  |
| Liver biopsies\* | Where possible, send two specimens – one in 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin and one wrapped in saline moistened gauze. | Please supply relevant clinical details. |  |
| Oncotyping\* | Paraffin Block | Referred to Genomic HealthCare (US) for Onctotpyping |  |
| Mitochondrial Studies\* | Send fresh to the laboratory -  Immediately | Referred to Mitochondrial Research Group in Newcastle University for analysis/St James Hospital (CMD) |  |
| CSF for RT-QuIC Analysis | CSF frozen at -70°C within 30 minutes of aspiration and transported to the Neuropathology Dept, Beaumont Hospital on dry ice. | Volume CSF: 1 - 2ml.  Sample must be clear and colourless (not blood stained) with a white cell count of <10x10^6/L and have a total protein concentration of <1 g/L1. Red blood cells (>1250 x 10^6/L) inhibit the RT-QuIC response resulting in false negatives. High CSF total protein concentrations of >1.0 g/L and raised white blood cell counts can result in false positives. |  |
| Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia\* | Nasal Scraping | Referred to Southhampton General Hospital for analysis |  |
| Flow Cytometry\* | CSF  Or  Lymph Node | Referred to Haematology in St. James’s Hospital Dublin for Analysis |  |
| Amyloidosis\* | Paraffin Block | National Amyloidosis Centre, London, University College London |  |
| PDL1\* non-breast (NCCP recommendation) | Paraffin Block | Referred to Poundbury Cancer Institute, Dorchester, London &  HSL-Advanced Diagnostics  HEALTH SERVICES LABORATORIES  (A Sonic Healthcare UK laboratory) for metastatic oesophageal SCC. | |
| Molecular Studies – MY88 | Paraffin Block | Referred to Royal Victora Hospital Belfast |  |
| All other tissue | Send in 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin. | An adequate volume of formalin in a specimen container of suitable size is essential for proper fixation. The volume of formalin used should be at least twice the volume of the tissue to be fixed. Small specimens should be placed in biohazard bags. |  |
| Histology Blocks\* |  | outsourcing of blocks for cutting & staining to HTS |  |

\*Specimens referred out from Beaumont Hospital - the results of these tests are not covered by the scope of Beaumont Hospital Histopathology Department ISO15189 accreditation.

Specimens referred out from Beaumont Hospital - the results of these tests are not covered by the scope of Beaumont Hospital Histopathology Department ISO15189 accreditation. The responsibility for sending specimens lies with the external centre (Sender).

Please Note: Sample acceptance criteria ensure adequate identification for Histopathology samples and request forms in order for them to be accepted by the laboratory. The requesting clinician is responsible for the correct completion of the request form and the correct labelling of the sample.

Failure to comply with the correct guidance may result in the sample not being accepted in the laboratory. Inadequately or inaccurately labelled samples or forms will not be accepted unless they are considered to be unrepeatable or reproducible. An assessment of acceptance will be made by the laboratory personnel/consultant on an individual bass. The risk to the patient of rejection/acceptance of the sample will be weighed against the risk of acceptance of a wrongly labelled sample and is specific to the examinations requested.Cellular Pathology will accept no responsibility for samples processed which initially failed to meet the acceptance criteria, any deviation from the established collection procedures clearly recorded and an appropriate comment will be included in the pathology report.The laboratory will make every effort to ensure patient requests are processed in a safe and timely manner, but it is essential that request forms and samples are labelled appropriately and legibly. Inadequate or inaccurate labelling results in delays and impacts patient care. If you have any doubts regarding this policy, please contact the lab.

Multiple samples taken from a patient MUST be labelled on the sample container with the number and stae the site of tissue on each. The request form should be labelled accordingly to allow clear specimen location to be identified,

Requirement for External Centres

The responsibility for sending slides/blocks/material lies with the external centre (Sender). External centres may send slides/blocks/material to Pathology for review/conferences etc. Ensure that slides/blocks/material is accompanied with the appropriate request form and relevant report. When multiple slides/blocks/materials are received, all must be labelled with clear identification of case number, according to acceptance criteria. This allows for unequivabal traceability to the patient. Any discrepancies will be addressed with the relevant referring hospital.

Ensure that packaging and transportation comply with the European Agreement for the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, ADR Regulations.

Address the package to:

Histopathology/Neuropathology (as appropriate to analysis required)

Beaumont Hospital,

Dublin 9

Include the Consignee address and telephone number.

### Factors Affecting Fresh/Unfixed Tissue Specimens

The techniques that are performed on fresh tissue are affected by the length of time that the tissue is removed from the patient before it is received for analysis. Therefore it is imperative that all tissue samples required to be sent fresh should be done so immediately. Fresh samples should be sent during normal working hours and the department must be informed in advance if a fresh sample is to arrive out of hours.

NOTE: Specimens from patients with TB, HIV or Hepatitis B or C infection should not be sent “fresh”. If such a suspicion is present, the medical staff concerned must inform laboratory personnel in order to safeguard the laboratory staff from risk of infection

The following may be obtained from the Histopathology laboratory.

* Specimen containers – various sizes.
* 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin (in polycubes with taps/5lt containers).
* Pre-filled 60ml 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin containers.
* Histopathology/ Cytopathology/ Neuropathology / Renal Request Cards
* Slides and slide containers with fixative for Fine Needle Aspirates (FNAs).
* EM fixative.
* Liquid nitrogen for the Dermatology clinics.

**SAFETY:** Formalin is a potent eye and nasal irritant and can cause respiratory distress and allergic dermatitis. Gloves, goggles and aprons should be used when dealing with formalin. Contact the Histopathology Laboratory for any additional information that may be required and if a formalin spillage should occur.

Liquid nitrogen can cause cold burns and is dangerous to use in confined spaces as it is an asphyxiant. It can also shatter receptacles that are unsuitable for its storage. Subsequently it will only be given to Beaumont Hospital personnel and transferred into a suitable receptacle. Information on safety on any of the above may be obtained from Histopathology on request @ ext. 2353

### Please note: The laboratory periodically reviews any collection sample and handling issues through feedback via MDT meetings/User feedback Survey’s and any issues discussed at departmental meetings. Where compromised samples are accepted (e.g. specimen received with no specimen) the final report will indicate the nature of the problem and if applicable that caution is required when interpreting the results.Turn Around Time for Results

The turn around time of specimens for Histopathology will vary depending on the nature of the specimen and the complexity of the investigations required. The following is an outline of estimated turn around time for different specimen types from time of receipt in the laboratory:

Biopsies – 5-10 working days (on average)

Resections – 10 working days (on average)

Renal Biopsies – 7-9 weeks for Electron Microscopy

– 4-6 weeks for Light Microscopy

– 14 days for Immunofluorescence

CSF for RT-QuIC –10-15 working days

This is only a guideline and the complexity of a case and the requirement for further investigations may lengthen the turn around time. Results can be obtained from the Histopathology office, ext. 2636/2632/3150/3919. The Consultant/NCHDs can be contacted to discuss individual patients. TAT’s are routinely monitored as part of the laboratories quality improvement programme

### Cytopathology Specimen Requirements

| **Specimen** | **Specimen requirements** |
| --- | --- |
| **Bronchial brushings** | * Place material in a sterile container labelled with   patient and specimen details, including the time  of specimen collection. |
|  |  |
| **Fluids**  **(Pleural, Ascitic etc.)** | * Place material in a sterile container labelled with patient and specimen details, including the time of specimen collection. * At least 20 mls of fluid is required for diagnosis. |
| **Urine** | - Total voided specimen is required for cytology.   * The first morning specimen is not suitable. * Place in a container labelled with patient and specimen details. |
| **Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology/EUS/EBUS** | Sample from EUS/EBUS is sent to the cytology lab in cytolyt (available in the lab – Ext 2640) |
| **Cerebrospinal Fluid for Cytology.** | * Specimen must be collected in a sterile container labelled with patient and specimen details and delivered to the Neuropathology laboratory. |
| **Flow Cytometry\*** | * ***Cytometry placed directly into RPMI are viable for up to 18Hrs****. (Contact Cytology on Ext. 2640)* |

\* Specimens referred out from Beaumont Hospital - the results of these tests are not covered by the scope of Beaumont Hospital Histopathology Department ISO15189 accreditation

Items that can be Obtained from the Cytology laboratory

* Slides
* Slide holders
* Spray fixative
* Coplin jars of alcohol (Fixing FNA smears)
* Cervical cytology request forms
* ThinPrep kits for cervical smears (Hospital Clinics only)
* Biohazard bags
* Cytolyt containers

NOTE: Each sample should be accompanied by a Histopathology/Cytopathology request form (found on all wards) – please put as in as much information as possible.

Turn Around Times for Cytology Samples

Non-Gynae Cytology Samples – 3-4 Days

### Specimen Requirements for Renal Pathology

The Laboratory should be notified in advance when a renal biopsy is to be taken.

Contact the Renal Pathology Secretary or if she is not available the Medical Scientists in the Renal Pathology/EM/Histopatholgy Laboratories:

Details required for Renal Biopsies

The following **minimum** information must be supplied LEGIBLY:

On the body of the specimen container:

A Renal Biopsy Request Form must be filled in **(use a ballpoint pen please to make details legible on all copies of the form)** and sent with each biopsy :

* Name of patient
* Date of birth
* Medical record number
* Address of patient
* Name of Consultant
* Source (Ward Name/OPD/Hospital)
* Date sample taken
* Relevant clinical details
* Time sample taken (when applicable) as this can have an impact on the integrity of the results
* Please give ***as much clinical information on the form*** as possible, as this will be required by the Renal Pathologist when considering differential diagnoses.
* If using addressograph labels please attach one to both flimsies and to the backing card – these copies are sent with each portion of the biopsy to the three laboratories involved in the investigation.
* ***Do not*** attach labels, use date stamps or write in the portion marked for “**Laboratory use”** as this area is used by Beaumont Scientific staff for recording the gross description of the biopsy. If your despatch procedures require that stamps or bar codes be attached please use the reverse (blank side) of the form’s card copy.

### Renal Pathology Requirements for External Centres

* The Renal Pathology Department should be notified before sending biopsy via email to: electronmicroscopy2@beaumont.ie
* The responsibility for sending specimens rests with the external centre.
* The **minimum details** required are as set out above, including the use of the Renal Biopsy request form. Supplies of the Request Form canbe obtained by contacting the Renal laboratory on 01-8528633 (Dect phone)
* Packaging and transportation should comply with current UN legislation and the Transport of Dangerous Goods Act.
* The specimen should be dispatched so as to arrive at Beaumont Hospital no later than 16.00.

Packages should be addressed to:

Consultant Renal Pathologist   
Renal Pathology/Electron Micrscopy/Histopathology,

Histopathology Department,

Beaumont Hospital,

Dublin 9

NB Beaumont Hospital does not supply containers or fixative solutions for renal biopsies to external centres.

For referring hospitals in the Dublin area, if the sample can be transported to Beaumont Hospital within a couple of hours of excision, then place all of the tissue in normal saline in a 60 ml specimen jar or a universal container at least half full of liquid.

For referrals from regional centres, tissue can be examined and divided in the Histopathology Laboratory of the hospital prior to dispatch. Fresh tissue for immunofluorescence (0.3-0.4 cm of cortical tissue) should be placed in a transport medium suitable for preserving antigenic activity such as the Tissue Fixative available from Zeus Scientific Ltd. For best results, tissue should not spend any longer than 5 days in Zeus Tissue Fixative.

The remaining cores can be placed in Formalin. It is not necessary for external laboratories to make and keep a stock of glutaraldehyde. A piece of the core can be taken for EM from the Formalin fixed tissue on arrival at Beaumont Hospital Histopathology Department.

### Urgent Renal Biopsies for Rapid Processing

If a renal biopsy result is required urgently, i.e. the day of biopsy, then rapid processing can be requested:

* You must contact the renal pathologist on duty to discuss the request, and when the request has been agreed, the Histopathology Laboratory should also be informed.
* The tissue must arrive in the Histopathology Laboratory by 12.30 pm at the latest. The tissue processor is then run for this single biopsy, and cannot be used until the process is completed. The surgical and biopsy specimens from that day’s cut-up must be processed daily to maintain continuity of service to all other clinical specialities, so the processor must be available for use again at 5pm.

Please note: Renal biopsy cover: from time to time there may be an arrangement with Belfast. In terms of logistics, generally biopsies can be transferred up on the same day if we receive them by 11.15, after that they will go the following day.

Please liaise with the lab or indicate clearly on the form if a biopsy needs to be sent out or if it can wait for me to come back. It is vital that the lab is contacted regarding urgent biopsies to organise the most appropriate means of transferring the sampl. Renal laboratory personnel can be reached on 01 8528633 and Prof Declan O'Rourke can be contacted on 00447746648787.

### Electron Microscopy

The Electron Microscopy (EM) Laboratory was initially set up to serve diagnostic Renal Pathology which comprises the bulk of the caseload but a small number of Neuropathology cases are also handled.

The Laboratory is equipped with a JEOL 1400 Plus Transmission Electron Microscope and an AMT XR50 4 megapixel Digital Camera system. Samples are batched and processed automatically once a week.

The EM Laboratory is not equipped or staffed to deal with Virological EM requests, and due to low frequency of request does not accept nasal brushings for analysis of Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD)\*. This is a highly specialised investigation and requires expertise which cannot be gained in this hospital due the low volume of requests. Please contact the EM laboratory for instructions, request form and fixative. When the procedure has been carried out, the sample should be sent to the EM Laboratory from where it will be referred to the UK National Centre for PCD Analysis in Southampton.

\*Specimens referred out from Beaumont Hospital - the results of these tests are not covered by the scope of Beaumont Hospital Histopathology Department ISO15189 accreditation.

### Specimen Requirements for Neuropathology

| **Tissue Type** | **Means of Delivery to Neuropathology** | **Comment** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Specimen for urgent frozen section | Send fresh. Hand deliver immediately. | The Neuropathology consultation form must include a bleep number or intercom number to deliver the report |
| Muscle Biopsy\* | Send on gauze that is barely dampened in saline. Do not fix in formalin. Hand deliver immediately.  See Section 1.1.8 for requirements from external centres. | Must be received during normal working hours unless previously arranged. |
| Nerve Biopsy | Send on gauze that is barely dampened in saline.  Do not fix in formalin. Hand deliver immediately. See Section 1.1.8 for requirements from external centres. | Must be received during normal working hours unless previously arranged. |
| Hippocampus & Amygdala | Send fresh. Hand deliver immediately to the laboratory. |  |
| Temporal Lobe (Epilepsy) | Send fresh. Hand deliver immediately to the laboratory. |  |
| Temporal Artery | Send in 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin. | Send Immediately/ASAP |
| Laminectomy/Disc | Send in 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin. |  |
| Tumour fluid for cytology | Hand delivery immediately. | Must be received during normal working hours. |
| CSF for cytology | Hand delivery immediately. | Must be received during normal working hours. |
| CSF for RT-QuIC Analysis | CSF frozen at -70°C within 30 minutes of aspiration and transported to the Neuropathology Dept, Beaumont Hospital on dry ice. | Must be received during normal working hours unless previously arranged.  CJD Questionnaire must accompany specimen. |
| Autopsy & Biopsy tissue (e.g/ Brain / Tonsil) for Prion Protein Analysis | Hand delivery immediately. | Must be received during normal working hours. Contact Rachel Howley 017977766 |
| All other tissue | Sent in 10% neutral buffered formalin indicating volume. | Must be received during normal working hours. |

\* Specimens referred out from Beaumont Hospital - the results of these tests are not covered by the scope of Beaumont Hospital Histopathology Department ISO15189 accreditation.

Requirements for External Centres

The responsibility for sending specimens lies with the external centre (Sender). Specimens must be pre-booked with the Neuropathology department (Tel. 8092633) in advance to enable the department to make arrangements should the sample arrive after hours. Ensure that packaging and transportation comply with current UN legislation.

Address the package to:

Neuropathology,

Beaumont Hospital,

Dublin 9

Include the Consignee address and telephone number. Record that the sample is an ‘**Urgent sample for Neuropathology’**.

Confirm by contacting the Neuropathology department when the sample has been collected.

Results

Muscle Biopsies: Laboratory tests on muscle biopsies are performed on a weekly basis due to the complexity of the techniques involved. Results are generally available from the Neuropathology office 10 days (on average)

CSF Samples for RT-QuIC Analysis: There is an approximate turn around of 10-15 days from receipt of the sample to results.

Nerve Biopsies: Results are available 10 days from specimen receipt.

Requirements / Factors Affecting Muscle Biopsies

Requirements

All investigations are performed on unfixed frozen tissue. Samples must be delivered to the lab on gauze that is barely dampened with saline as excess causes swelling and separation of fibres. This makes interpretation difficult. A muscle having grade 3/5 on MRC strength scale is best. A fatty muscle (‘end-stage’ biopsy) may have insufficient fibres for diagnosis.

The department must be informed in advance if a sample is being delivered after hours. Ensure a requisition form is properly completed to include clinical details

Specimen Size

An open biopsy is preferable to a needle biopsy especially if mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and protein analysis be required. A biopsy of at least 1.5 x 1x 1cm is ideal. This allows extra samples to be banked in case it is necessary to forward any to an external centre for further studies. Biopsies less than 0.5cu cm are insufficient for this purpose.

CSF Samples for RT-QuIC Analysis

Requirements

The sample should be sent to the Neuropathology lab immediately after aspiration for freezing as sub optimal sample storage may give unpredictable results. Alternatively the CSF sample must be frozen at -70°C within 30 minutes of aspiration and transported to the Neuropathology Dept, Beaumont Hospital on dry ice. All samples must be logged in with the Neuropathology Lab prior to sending. All samples must accompany a completed questionnaire (LF-NCJD-CSF Questions), copies of which are available from the Neuropathology Laboratory (Ext. 2633) or are available for download from www.cjd.ie.

The sample volume should be between 1-2mls and be clear and colourless (not blood stained) with a white cell count of <10x10^6/L and have a total protein concentration of <1 g/L1. Red blood cells (>1250 x 10^6/L) inhibit the RT-QuIC response resulting in false negatives. High CSF total protein concentrations of >1.0 g/L and raised white blood cell counts can result in false positives.

Safety Precautions

CSF is considered to be a low risk sample for all types of Prion Disease. Take appropriate precautions when sampling.*[see* [*www.cjd.ie*](http://www.cjd.ie/) *]*

In the event of accidental leakage of the sample please contact the Neuropathology laboratory. There is no immediate hazard to health unless the sample is ingested or injected into the body. Disposable gloves must be worn before attempting to handle the material.

years will not be screened for MELAS / mtDNA rearrangements.

#### Test Request Forms

Test request forms are available to download via the Beaumont Hospital Histopathology department website at <http://www.beaumont.ie/index.jsp?p=105&n=349> or by contacting the laboratory.

#### Delivery of Specimens for Analysis

Courier Services: Specimens can be delivered via courier directly to the Department of Histopathology.

#### Oral Requests/Additional Requests

Requests for additional tests are made by the Consultant Histopathologists. Further molecular testing is currently being performed by Poundbury Cancer Institute (PCI). Oral/Additional requests to the lab fot these tests must be requested by email to the laboratory. The request form is available on the poundbury institute. The request form must be completed by the requesting clinician, scanned and emailed to the histology office on [histo@beaumont.ie](mailto:histo@beaumont.ie) where send out of material to PCI will be arranged. Specimens submitted for Histology are retained in the department for 6 weeks and Cytology for 4 weeks. In addition, blocks and slides are retained indefinitely on all specimens processed. Contact the laboratory/Histology office for advice regarding additional examinations required.

#### Test Results

Despite our best efforts, it is possible that an error can occur. If you have concerns about a report please draw it to our attention without delay, and we will investigate immediately.

#### Specimen Referral

When we are unable to provide a request or required follow-on analysis, we will attempt to source a referral laboratory, to which specimens may be sent. We welcome input from interested clinicians in this process. The choice of laboratory is primarily based on quality grounds, with accredited laboratories being chosen preferentially. Other factors such as cost and turnaround times are also considered.

#### Details Required for All Specimens

Regardless of the specimen type, the minimum essential information and minimum criteria that must be supplied **legibly** include:

On the specimen block/slide:   
Histopathology block number

On the request form

* Name of patient
* Date of Birth
* Requesting Clinician/Pathologist
* Referring Hospital
* Relevant clinical details
* Specimen type

**Note:** Please send the pathology report relating to the sample to be tested and give ***as much clinical information on the form / letter*** as possible, as this will be required by the Pathologist when considering interpretations and advice.   
Specimens will not be accepted without a minimum of three forms of identification on the request form and will be returned to the source of origin to be completed / labelled correctly.  
All hazard labels where appropriate must be used for the health and safety of the staff that will be handling the specimen.

#### Turnaround Times for Results (TATs)

The turnaround time of specimens will vary depending on the nature of the specimen and the complexity of the investigations required. The following is an outline of estimated turn around times for different specimen types from time of receipt in the laboratory:

Histopathology IHC or ISH 5-10 days

HER2 IHC testing 10-15 days

Histopathology (referred to external institute) 20 days

**Notes**

* TATs refer to working days from receipt of specimen until report has been authorised. Time refers to 95% of referrals.
* Any request forms requesting a phoned report will be phoned to the Clinician or his/her Secretary.
* There is no time limit for requesting additional examinations but requests should be made by contacting the laboratory or the Pathologist dealing with the case.
* Urgent specimens will be “fast tracked”. From receipt of specimen to interim report status can be performed in two days.

#### Reports

Reports are not available through the laboratory.

* Reports are sent to the Clinical Consultant and/or source
* Authorised Reports are sent to the clinician and additional requests for reports are sent via the Fortimail email encryption System. Please contact the Histology admin office if you wish to receive reports by an alternative means or by email: hist@beaumont.ie
* Reports are available by phoning the Histology Office at (01) 8092632/2636/2678/2154/
* Neuropathology reports are available by phoning the Neuropathology results office at (01) 8092636/8092672
* Renal pathology reports are available by phoning the Rena pathology results office at (01) 8092008
* Only authorised reports are available through the office/PIPE

If an interim report, clinical advice or result interpretation is required please contact the Consultant HistopathologistAutopsy Services (Post Mortems)

The Histopathology and Neuropathology Department provide an autopsy service. Autopsies may be performed at the request of the clinical staff responsible for the care of the patient or under the direction of the Coroner.

Written consent from the next of kin on the appropriate post-mortem examination consent form is required for non-Coroner cases (ie "Hospital" or "House" consent cases) before an autopsy is performed. (LAB 358B6)

· In Coroner's cases, including query CJD cases, the Coroner Autopsy Post Mortem Examination Form (LAB 357B) detailing the nature of the procedure and giving the name and number of a family member must be completed.

Written consent from the next of kin on the appropriate post-mortem examination consent form is required for non-Coroner cases (i.e."Hospital" or "House" consent cases) before an autopsy is performed. This consent is the responsibility of the treating physician (LAB 358B6).

In Coroner's cases, including query CJD cases, the Coroner Autopsy Post Mortem Examination Form (LAB 357B) detailing the nature of the procedure and giving the name and number of a family member must be completed by the treating physician. Consent from the next of kin is not an option as the Coroner may, under the law, order a post mortem in certain situations to establish or clarify the cause of death".