

Skin, Punch Biopsy

(11.1 Skin Punch Biopsy); Updated October 5th, 2019 by Justin Kerstetter, MD

SAMPLE DICTATION

(Labeled: ____, ____, ____) Received ____ is a _ mm skin punch biopsy cut to a depth of _ mm.

Major pathologic finding(s): If grossly identifiable lesion, particularly pigmented lesions, describe it with particular attention to the size of the lesion.

Other findings:

Specimen Handling: (TE, ____ caps)

SUGGESTED SAMPLING

1-3: If 3 mm, TE without sectioning. If 4 mm and above, bisected and TE. No need to ink the specimen

STAGING CRITERIA (AJCC 8TH EDITION)

- Skin tumors are typically not staged on punch biopsy

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- If there is concern for an alopecia and you receive only one biopsy, bisect specimen vertically and then bisect ONE of the halves horizontally. We need vertical and horizontal sections for proper evaluation of alopecia cases.