

Needle Core Biopsies

(13.1 Needle_Core_Biopsy); Updated November 18th, 2020 by Jeremy Deisch, MD

SAMPLE DICTATION

(Labeled: ____, ____, ____; ____) Received ____ is a / are ____ core/cores of [tan] tissue measuring _ cm in diameter, ranging in length from _ to _ cm.

Specimen Handling: (TE, wrapped, two caps; PK CORE package ordered)

SUGGESTED SAMPLING

1,2: Cores, split between two caps (order “**PK CORE**” package in PTOE for each cap containing biopsy cores)

STAGING CRITERIA (AJCC 8TH EDITION)

- N/A

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- To ensure proper fixation of tissue prior to processing, **a minimum of 2.5 hours fixation** (Bouin’s, formalin) is required prior to processing. Larger specimens require longer duration fixation.
- Given the increasing demand for ancillary testing, maximal tissue conservation is key. For this purpose, we handle the specimens in the following fashion...
 - **Divide the cores into two separate caps** - This step ensures that immunohistochemical studies for pathologic diagnosis can be performed on one block, while the tissue in the second block can be preserved for sendout for future molecular studies.
 - **Order “PK CORE” package in PTOE.** This package orders unstained slides along with the H&E slide. Cutting unstained slides at this time minimizes tissue loss due to unnecessary trimming of the paraffin block.
- Remember to carefully wrap the cores and dye with carbol fuschin to aid in embedding and ensure that the tissue survives processing.