

**Peter MacCallum Tissue Bank**  
**Fresh tissue handling procedure.**

Fresh surgical specimens are to be transported to Pathology as soon as possible.

Where delay is unavoidable, the tissue should be transported on ice.

After examination by the pathologist, the tumour sample should be divided into one third and two thirds. The smaller piece is to be fixed in neutral buffered formalin, the larger piece is to be snap frozen in liquid nitrogen. The collection of fresh frozen tissue is a priority and therefore, where tumour samples are very small, less than approximately 100mg, the whole sample should be frozen.

Where available, normal tissue adjacent to the tumour specimen is also collected, both formalin fixed and fresh frozen.

Tissue should be held at  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  until being transported on dry ice if necessary.

**Reagents**

10% buffered formalin, 'Confix Blue pH 7.0' Australian Biostains. Approximately 100ml is dispensed into a plastic sample pot and the cassettes containing tissue for fixation placed inside for transport to Tissue Bank.

Tissue is frozen as 4-5mm slices in disposable plastic histokinette baskets labeled with specimen number, P number and Tumour/Normal. The histokinette baskets are wrapped in foil, labeled with a specimen number sticker and snap frozen in liquid nitrogen.

**For further information, contact Lisa Devereux, PMCC Tissue Bank  
03 9656 1102 or 0438 457 257.**