

Ship specimens to one of the following:

HCS
P.O. Box 770 / 207 N. Harkness St.
Everson, WA 98247
Formalin fixed tissue, Non-Urgent Cytology
Specimens, Necropsy in a bottle

Northwest ZooPath
654 W. Main St.
Monroe, WA 98272
Urgent Cytology, Prepared slides for 2nd opinion,
Fresh Carcass for Necropsy



Northwest ZooPath Specimen Collection/Submission

Always submit a submission form with history for each patient

Surgical Biopsies

- Submit in 10% buffered formalin
- Place biopsy specimens in formalin promptly after collection
- When possible, submit normal and affected areas
- Place tiny or endoscopic biopsy specimens in tissue cassettes (available upon request)
- When submitting multiple specimens on a single patient, combine specimens in as few containers as possible.
- Always include your clinic and patient's names on containers
- Ink or suture surgical margins of concern

Cytology preparations

- Submit at least one stained and one unstained slide when possible.
- Slides should be labeled with patients name and the sampling location
- When submitting cytology along with biopsy, package cyto slides in a separate sealed baggie as formalin fumes can render the cytology specimen non-diagnostic

Bone Marrow Submissions

- Submit marrow biopsy in formalin
- Submit marrow cytology (aspirate or impression) on 10 smears – leave at least 8 unstained
- Send results of CBC obtained at same time as marrow samples
- Place cytology and formalin container in separate, sealed zip-lock bags to avoid contamination of cytology specimens from formalin fumes

Necropsy in a bottle

- When submitting multiple tissues from a necropsied animal, the tissue sections should be trimmed small but representative of the organ. For example, kidney section should include cortex and medulla and cerebrum should include gray and white matter.
- Small animals such as some amphibians, tiny birds, mice, etc... may be submitted whole in a formalin container.
- For small animals submitted whole, it is recommended that you remove the top of the calvarium and remove the sternum or open the abdominal cavity to achieve adequate fixation.
- These specimens are billed as multiple tissue biopsies, not as gross necropsies.

Gross Necropsy

- If you would prefer to have the pathologist perform a necropsy on a fresh carcass, please call ahead to check availability of pathologist
- Follow the instructions on our shipping instructions handout for submitting gross necropsies
- Photos of relevant lesions will be taken at time of necropsy
- Specimens for ancillary tests will be collected and submitted when indicated (please note there will be additional charges for testing we do not perform at our lab).
- We do not accept fish or primates for gross necropsy

Microbiology and Toxicology

- Northwest ZooPath does not provide microbiology or toxicology services.
- We are unable to accept your fresh or frozen tissues for these purposes.
- When bacterial or fungal cultures are indicated, these should be collected at your facility and submitted to the clinical reference laboratory of your choice.
- When gross necropsy is performed by ZooPath, we will collect and submit all necessary specimens at the time of necropsy.
- If toxins or viruses are the suspected etiologic agents, portions of the representative tissues should be frozen and stored at your facility. The choice to submit these tissues is usually based on the results of the histopathology