

TISSUE GRINDER

- St. Joseph Medical Center Tacoma, WA
- St. Francis Hospital Federal Way, WA
- St. Clare Hospital Lakewood, WA
- St. Anthony Hospital Gig Harbor, WA
- St. Elizabeth Hospital Enumclaw, WA
- PSC

PURPOSE

To provide instructions for performing tissue grinding on tissues to produce a homogenized specimen.

SUPPLIES

1. Precision tissue grinder kit. Includes grinding tube and pestle. Store at room temperature.
2. Sterile saline, TSB or Thioglycollate

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

1. Tissue specimen received in a sterile container. If necessary, cut a small piece of tissue from the sample using a sterile scalpel. Look for infected tissue to process. If specimen is small use the whole sample to homogenize. Process all specimens under the biological hood.
2. Before receiving the specimen into the department, click on the setup bench icon. Under the Task area, click on an empty space under the media listed. Go to the magnifying glass and pick tissue grinding. Accept. This will be added to the Task list and charge the patient for tissue grinding. Select all and confirm.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

R-W-MB-117 Inoculation by Source

STEPS

1. Label the tube provided in the kit with the patients accession number label.
2. Place a small piece of the patient’s tissue specimen on the side wall of the tube.
3. Add 0.5 ml either sterile saline or TSB or Thio. Only one of the fluids is needed.
4. Hold the tube sideways and insert the pestle making sure the plastic sheath goes on the outside of the tube. The sheath protects the specimen from contamination. Push the tissue to the bottom of the tube.
5. Hold tube through the sheath and grind back and forth 90 degrees using the handle at the top of the pestle. Press slightly on the pestle to grind the tissue.
6. Look at the bottom of the tube to see if the specimen is fully ground.
7. Continue grinding if specimen does not appear to be fully homogenized.

8. Pull the pestle out of the tube about ¼ inch and shake pestle side to side to remove all material from the pestle.
9. Discard pestle in biohazard container
10. Use specimen at the bottom of the tube to plate the specimen onto media and make a gram stain.
11. Cap the tube and save specimen in the refrigerator.

LIMITATIONS

1. Hard specimens such as bone may be difficult to homogenize using a tissue grinder.
2. Do not use if any part of the package is damaged or missing.

REFERENCES

Product insert. Precision Tissue Grinder, Covidien Company. Mansfield, MA. 8/2011.