

UW Medicine - Pathology

100-02-01-14

Surgical Case Turn Around Time Policy

Adopted Date: 08/02/11
Review Date:
Revision Date: 05/20/13

PURPOSE

To define turn around times for surgical excisions, resections and slide review consultations.

POLICY

The integrity of the training program in UW Medicine Pathology is predicated on the allowance of appropriate time for resident/fellow case review prior to sign out. As a result, the completion of reports on non-complicated surgical excisions and resections will not usually occur before the third (3) working day. Every attempt will be made to complete all other uncomplicated case types within two (2) working days.

The department's current turn around time standard for surgical cases is to have 90% of all specimens, including complicated cases, completed within four (4) working days. Slide review consultations, per UWMC and SCCA policy, are defined as a turn around time of three (3) working days.

The following notification processes have been established in the event that results are delayed;

- Delays as a result of laboratory failures (i.e. equipment failures, staffing shortages, testing repeats that will exceed TAT's etc.) will be communicated to the faculty and residents.
- Reporting delays that will result in treatment ramifications and that will exceed 1 day (24hrs) beyond the TAT (as outlined above) will be communicated to the clinician by the reporting pathologist.

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