

UW Medicine - Pathology

100-02-01-33

Telepathology Policy

Adopted Date:	06/14/13
Revision Date:	

PURPOSE

To instruct in the use of camera systems on Telepathology Carts and fixed-location microscope cameras in transmitting rapid on-site evaluation (ROSE), frozen section, and consultation slide images between UW Medicine sites.

The components based system was designed and approved by UW Pathology for dynamic live video telepathology.

SCOPE

Telepathology is limited to rapid on-site evaluations (ROSE), frozen section images, and slide consultation images, in which camera systems are situated on cytopathology cart(s) and fixed-location microscopes equipped with camera systems capable of broadcasting live streaming video to internet-enabled workstations. Computer workstations allow electronic access to pertinent clinical information at the time of slide image review. The components-based system was designed and approved by UW Pathology for dynamic live video telepathology.

The ROSE, initial frozen section interpretation, and consultation interpretation procedures are the same as for standard (non-telepathology) procedures except that the pathologist initially examines streaming video of slide images rather than direct examination of glass slides. All policies and procedures related to patient identification, separation of cases, labeling, etc. are not altered.

POLICY

1. **Users must be trained prior to use.** All pathologists, cytotechnologists, and pathology trainees must undergo training for the telecytology carts, fixed-location microscope live camera telepathology systems, and use of the software for receiving the microscopic images as part of initial training. Radiology technicians are trained

by demonstration on the startup procedure of the telecytology cart. Only a trained technician or trainee can drive the delivery microscope.

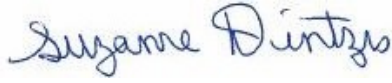
2. Access to receiving workstations deployed with the telepathology viewing software is restricted to approved users of the UW Medicine Pathology LIS, and is protected by password access and other appropriate security measures to ensure the confidentiality of patient information as required by HIPAA.
3. The live dynamic video stream from the system will not carry audio and will not contain any ePHI. Only microscope images without any patient identifying labels embedded on the video will be transmitted from the sending location to the receiving location. The transmitted video will not be encrypted or password protected. The trained driver and pathologist will communicate by phone.
4. At the time of interpretation, the trained driver contacts the Pathologist with system identification, patient identification, clinical information, and diagnostic question. Standard checkbacks for all identifications and diagnostic communications are required.
5. Findings of the interpretation are communicated both to the trained driver and to the clinician in the operating room at University of Washington Medical Center. The interpretation that is communicated must be documented on the Pathology Requisition form. This system is intended for use in ROSE and initial frozen section interpretation and is not intended for second opinion consultation from pathologists at outside institutions other than the University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC) and Harborview Medical Center (HMC).
6. The material generated for ROSE is retained and submitted along with any remaining tissue for final diagnosis. The frozen section-final diagnosis correlation is reviewed as part of the Quality Improvement / Assurance program, as defined in the Anatomic Pathology Quality Management Plan, 100-01-01-04.

REFERENCE

Anatomic Pathology Quality Management Plan, 100-01-01-04

UWMC Pathology Chief of Service:


(Signature and Date)

 6/21/2013

Suzanne Dintzis, MD, PhD

HMC Pathology Chief of Service:

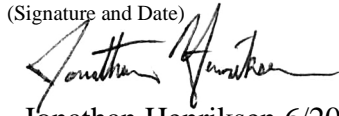
(Signature and Date)


6/21/2013

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Written by:

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Jonathan Henriksen 6/2013

Revised by:

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