**UW Medicine - Pathology**

6000-01-02-02

Frozen Section Turn Around Time Procedure

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| Adopted Date: 11/03/04  Review Date: 12/16/10  Revision Date: 08/05/08 |

PURPOSE

To record and monitor turnaround time for intraoperative frozen sections. Per CAP guidelines ANP.11820

At least 90% of frozen section interpretations should be rendered within 20 minutes of specimen arrival in the frozen section area. This 20-minute turnaround time is intended to apply to the typical single frozen section. If 90% of frozen sections are not completed within 20 minutes, there must be documentation of the reason(s) for the delay. In cases where there are multiple sequential frozen sections required on a single specimen (e.g. resection margins), or in cases where additional studies such as radiographic correlation are required, longer turnaround times may be expected.

PROCEDURE

1. The Pathology Request Form (PCR) should be time stamped when a frozen section is received in the frozen section room.
2. The time will be recorded by stamping the PCR on the right side next to the corresponding specimen source.
3. After a frozen section diagnosis has been rendered, the PCR should be time stamped again directly under original received time.
4. Pathology support staff enter this information into PowerPath under the Req Data Tab, frozen section received and frozen section reported fileds.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Novis DA, Zarbo RJ. Interinstitutional comparison of frozen section turn around time. A College of American Pathologists Q-Probes study of 32 868 frozen sections in 700 hospitals. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 1997; 121:559-567.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

1. Example of Stamped PCR form
2. QA Turn Around Time Monitoring Spreadsheet

Written By: Director Approval:

(Signature and Date) (Signature and Date)

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Supervisor / Manager