

# UW Medicine - Pathology

100-05-01-13

## Universal Precautions

Adopted Date: 07/25/95 Review Date: 01/27/09 Revision Date: 05/20/11
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### PURPOSE

To ensure that all specimens be treated using universal precautions in order to prevent the spread of infection (e.g. tuberculosis, etc.).

### SCOPE

All department staff, residents/fellows, and faculty.

### POLICY

#### **Gross Room / Frozen Section Room:**

The Gross Room and Frozen Section room are to follow all universal precautions for all specimens. If information regarding airborne / bloodborne contamination is received, the individual handling the specimen should take extra precaution during examination / processing to avoid infection. All equipment and surfaces should be immediately decontaminated upon completion of process.

#### **Cytology - Non Gyn**

1. All unfixed non-gyn specimens are to be processed inside a Biosafety cabinet. Never open the specimen containers until the fan is activated. Always work as far back in the cabinet as possible.
2. Dust mist masks are used when "blending" specimens under the hood to minimize the possibility of contamination with aerosols. Safety goggles are to be worn for eye protection.
3. Specimens and equipment, such as blender containers, are decontaminated or contained before removal from the hood.
4. Allow the hood to operate at least ten minutes after completing all operations.
5. Cover the work surface with a pad soaked in disinfectant when processing specimens.
6. Cytocentrifuge rotors are to be opened within the hood.

#### **Autopsy**

Refer to the Safety, Infection Control Autopsy Procedure, 5000-09-01-01, in the Autopsy manual.

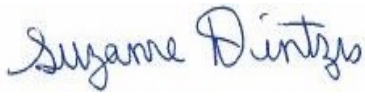
For a list of universal precautions refer to the Safety, Infection Control Management Policy, 100-05-01-01.

## REFERENCE

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Safety, Infection Control Management Policy, 100-05-01-01  
Safety, Infection Control Autopsy Procedure, 5000-09-01-01

UWMC Pathology Chief of Service:  
(Signature and Date)

 5/24/13

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