

Do Not Submit Routine Hernia Specimens to Pathology

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In November, 2017 DSM released the [Clinical Practice Change - Unnecessary Pathology](#) referencing section 6(2) of The Hospital Standards Regulation as outlined in [The Hospitals Act](#) for exemptions from pathology examination. Effective December 15, 2017 routine hernia tissue is included as an exemption from submission to pathology by Manitoba legislation and WRHA policy 110.220.070.

In the vast majority of cases, pathology examination of these tissues is an inefficient use of resources, generating unnecessary cost for the laboratory and providing no clinically relevant information.

***If there are clinical indications for a pathology examination:**

When there is reason to suspect the presence of disease on clinical grounds, specimens should be sent to Pathology with a specific written request for a pathology examination and pertinent clinical information clearly documented on the requisition.

Routine hernia specimens with no clinical reason to request a pathology examination should be disposed of in the operating room. These specimens should not be submitted to the pathology department.

References/Resources:

[The utility of pathologic evaluation of adult hernia specimens](#)

[Value of routine pathology in herniorrhaphy performed upon adults.](#)

[Routine pathological evaluation of tissue from inguinal hernias in children is unnecessary](#)

More information:

[The Hospitals Act](#)

[DSM Clinical Practice Change: Unnecessary Pathology - Tissues for Disposal](#)

WRHA regional policy #110.220.070: Pathology Specimens (Management of) – Acute Care Setting.

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