
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

SUBJECT: Surgical Specimen Handling

NO. 24.2

PAGE NO. 1 of 1

Original Date of Issue: 6/91

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|-----------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|--|
| Reviewed: | 11/93 | 3/94 | 5/94 | 8/97 | 10/98 | 9/99 | 5/00 | 11/01 | |
| Revised: | 9/96 | 4/03 | 4/06 | | | | | | |

Patient
Population

| | |
|------------|---|
| Neonate | √ |
| Pediatric | √ |
| Adolescent | √ |
| Adult | √ |
| Geriatric | √ |

POLICY:

Surgical specimens removed from patients in the Emergency Department will be handled appropriately and in a timely manner.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Surgical specimens from ED patients such as products of conception are sent to Clinical Pathology for examination.
2. Department of Pathology Forms must be completed specifying source, date, requesting physician, pertinent clinical history, patient demographics.
3. Foreign bodies removed from a patient of forensic interest shall be turned over to law enforcement officials in compliance with chain of custody procedures and appropriate documentation.