Name of Policy: Tissue or Hardware Removed During Surgery

Policy Number: 3364-87-29

Approving Officer: Chief of Staff

Responsible Agent: Chief Medical Officer

Scope: All University of Toledo Campuses

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New policy proposal  X  Minor/technical revision of existing policy
Major revision of existing policy  Reaffirmation of existing policy

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(A) Policy statement

It is the policy of the University of Toledo Medical Center that all tissues or hardware removed during surgery shall be submitted to the Department of Pathology. Some exceptions apply, as outlined below.

(B) Purpose of policy

To ensure appropriate submission of tissue or hardware removed during surgery.

(C) Procedure

(1) Upon submission of tissues or hardware removed during surgery, the pathologist shall make examinations as he considers necessary to arrive at a satisfactory diagnosis, and his report shall then be included in the patient record.

(2) The following exceptions apply, however the specimen may be sent according to the physician’s or dentist’s clinical judgment:

(a) Non-diagnostic materials in which Pathology evaluation will not further influence patient care (e.g.,):

(i) Cataracts
(ii) Orthopedic appliances
(iii) Foreign bodies
(iv) Technically removed tissue (e.g., rib for exposure)
(v) Ureteral stents
(vi) Not-infected cardiac valves following routine placement
(vii) Loose bodies

(b) Radioactive therapeutic devices (for Radiation Safety)
(c) Traumatic, amputated extremities, uncomplicated

(d) Forensic materials submitted directly to law enforcement as evidence, if documented in chain of custody

(e) Tissues of rare pathologic significance (e.g.)
   (i) Newborn foreskin
   (ii) Pediatric tonsils (under age 12)
   (iii) Teeth

Approved by:

Thomas Schwann, M.D.
Chief of Staff

Date

Policies Superseded by This Policy:
• MS-029 Tissue or Hardware Removed During Surgery

Review/Revision Date: 01/21/04
01/10/07
02/23/11
01/22/14
07/23/14
5/1/2016

Next review date: 5/1/2019

Review/Revision Completed by:
Procedural Case Review Committee
Medical Executive Committee