

Sparrow Lab
Anatomic Pathology
Lansing, MI

Muscle Biopsy Protocol

PROCEDURE:

1. Upon notification of impending muscle biopsy, contact Sparrow Histology several days before the biopsy to schedule the test. (517-364-2017 or 517-364-2542).
2. The biopsy procedure and specimen transport must be appropriately scheduled in the morning so that the specimen can arrive for processing by a technician in Pathology before 2:30pm.
3. The muscle biopsy specimen should measure 1.5 x 1.0 x 0.5 cm, a little larger if additional biochemical studies are expected.
4. The specimen should be taken from the mid-portion of a muscle, free of tendon, aponeurosis, or other dense connective tissue. **It is not necessary to submit the specimen tied between clamps or tied to a stick.**
5. **Do not put in formalin!** Wrap the fresh specimen gently in saline-moistened gauze to prevent drying artifacts, put within a specimen jar, close the lid. **Do not soak or float the specimen in saline**, as it will create too much edema artifact.
6. Place the specimen jar in a small ice chest packed with **wet ice** for transport to Pathology Department ASAP. **(DO NOT FREEZE!)**
7. Package the Patients Clinical Information Form for Muscle /Nerve Biopsy Tissue Examination that was sent by the surgeon along with the specimen.
8. Before shipping be sure that copies are made of all the information received for the surgeon and keep it for our file. It will also be logged into the send out book.
9. Call the Histology Laboratory of Sparrow Pathology Department (517-364-2542) and give an estimated time of arrival.
10. Contact a courier for STAT delivery.