

Temporal Artery Biopsies

Arrangements

No special arrangements are necessary.

Fixation

10% Neutral buffered formalin

Special instructions

- ❖ Prior to beginning the surgery for a TA biopsy the following should be in the surgical room:
 - a) A specimen container with the correct amount of 10% neutral buffered formalin in it.
 - b) A formalin warning label on the specimen container.
 - c) Label with the patient's name, date of birth, surgeon's name and type and location of the specimen on the specimen container.
 - d) An Ocular Pathology Consultation Request form.
- ❖ Immediately after the TA biopsy specimen has been removed from the patient, place the tissue into the container of 10% neutral buffered formalin, make sure the tissue is completely covered with the 10% neutral buffered formalin.
 - a) The amount for TA biopsies should be at least **25-30 ml** of 10% neutral buffered formalin in the container.
- ❖ Seal the lid with either parafilm or paraffin (see Collection and Handling of Specimens for proper packing of the specimen).
- ❖ Follow the procedures under General Information on Collection and Handling of Specimens for proper packing of the specimen, labeling of the specimen, how to properly fill out the Ocular Pathology Consultation Request forms and specimen sending information.