

Histopathology Specimen Booking-in codes

One too many

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- 105 hospitals in England provide pathology services
- No national LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) - software for managing all pathology testing and reporting
- Sharing information across different LIMS systems is not easy
- Sharing information from LIMS to Clinical records systems

Lab 1		Lab 2		Lab 3	
LIBX	Biopsies, colon, 1 specimen/pot	COLBX	COLONIC BIOPSY	BCO	Bx Colon
	Biopsies, colon, 2-5 specimen/pots	INTBX	INTESTINAL BIOPSY		
	Biopsies, colon, >5 specimen/pots	SBBX	SMALL BOWEL BIOPSY		
SIBX	Biopsies, colon, 1 specimen/pot	JEJBX	JEJUNAL BIOPSY	BJE	Bx Jejunum
	Biopsies, colon, 2-5 specimen/pots	ILEBX	ILEAL BIOPSY	BIL	Bx Ileum
	Biopsies, colon, >5 specimen/pots	ICVBX	ILEO-CAECAL BIOPSY	BRC	Bx Rectal
LIP	Colorectal polyp	COLPO	COLONIC POLYP		
BCSPP	BCSP Colorectal polyp, <1cm			BSC	Bowel Cancer Screening Case
BCSPSS	BCSP Biopsies, colon, 1 specimen/pot	COLBS	COLORECTAL SCREENING: COLONIC BIOSPY		
	BCSP Biopsies, colon, 2-5 specimen/pots	SIGBX	SIGMOID COLON BIOPSY		
	BCSP Biopsies, colon, >5 specimen/pots	CAEBX	CAECAL BIOPSY		
OESBX	Biopsies, colon, 1 specimen/pot	CAE	CAECUM		
	Biopsies, colon, 2-5 specimen/pots	RSBX	RECTOSIGMOID BIOPSY		
	Biopsies, colon, >5 specimen/pots	RECTST	RECTAL STUMP BX		



Intestinal biopsy codes

Advantages of a single coding system

- Data comparable across different laboratories
- Transfer of cases across laboratories would be easier
- Easier transfer of information from one LIMS to another
- Easier LIMS integration with different PACS systems if codes used are the same
- Easier to switch LIMS providers

A3.9 Gastrointestinal pathology



Workload distribution

Specimens	Micro	Macro
Mucosal biopsy, 1 pot	1	–
Mucosal biopsy from one organ, 2–5 pots (or received in 1 multiwell cassette)	3	–
Mucosal biopsy from one organ, >5 pots (or received in 2 multiwell cassettes)	5	–
Colon series either oriented on an acetate strip in one pot, or in multiple pots, or received in multiwell cassette, specifying sites	3	–
Gall bladder	1	1
Anastomotic doughnut	1	1
Polyps, haemorrhoids, fistulae, pilonidal sinus	1	1
Appendix	1	1
Omentum or peritoneal biopsy	2	–
Omentectomy	2	2
Delorme's mucosal resection for prolapse	1	1
Endoscopic mucosal resection of tumour	3	2
Transanal endoscopic microsurgery	5	2
Resection of anal margin malignancy (as for dermatopathology)	5	3
Resection of small bowel for benign disease	3	3
Gastrectomy for benign disease	3	3
Small bowel resection for malignancy	8	8
Gastrectomy for malignancy	8	8
Oesophagectomy for malignancy	8	8
Colectomy for benign disease (e.g. diverticular/ischaemica/torsion)	3	3
Colectomy for polyposis/idiopathic inflammatory bowel disease	5	5
Colectomy, anterior or AP resection for colorectal or anal cancer (includes synchronous cancers and additional part organs)*	8	12

Time (minutes)	Points
1–5	1
5–10	2
11–20	3
21–30	5
31–50	8
>50	12

Disadvantages

- Some sites may have unique specimens so even a comprehensive list may require a degree of user adaptability

National Unified Specimen code

- Liaise with multiple NHS laboratories
- Compile a list that is “exhaustive”
- Allow for some flexibility
- Annual update of list to incorporate any new specimen types
- Liaise with the RCPATH and IBMS and LIMS providers