



**Histopathology support**

## Sample Preparation and Shipping Instructions

### Shipping information:

**Receiver's name:** iHisto INC

**Address:** 4 Technology way, Salem, MA 01970

**Tel:** +1 781 281 2568

### Tissue Shipping

- Tubes or cassettes must be labeled with pencil or laboratory grade markers/labels (resistant to formalin, ethanol, isopropanol and xylene). Everything must be legible.
- During necropsy, please isolate only the region of interest for each tissue. The maximum size of the tissue is 24mm width x 30mm length x 4mm depth.
- The volume of fixative must be 20x the volume of your sample and the tissue must be completely immersed in the solution.
- You can either order pre-filled histology containers with 10% formalin from [VWR](#), or submerge each wet tissue specimen in a 50mL falcon tube filled with 10% formalin and seal cap tightly.
- If you have samples that cannot be immediately analyzed, please submit those samples as "process and embed only" for requested service when you submit an online order.

#### 1) FFPE downstream services:

- If you can collect your specimens on the same day, please fix and ship all samples in 10% formalin to iHisto by overnight FedEx instead of changing to 70% ethanol. This is our preferred method for fixation.
- For H&E staining, samples can be stored in 10% formalin for up to 1 week before shipping. After 1 week, you may store your samples in 70% ethanol before shipment.
- The volume of fixative must be 20x over the sample volume and the tissue must be completely immersed in the solution. It is recommended to cut large tissues into thinner slices of <5 mm to allow for better fixation.
- For IHC staining, fix tissues in 10% formalin for 24-48 hrs at room temperature and then directly transfer to 70% ethanol before shipping. If you are planning to store your samples for over 2 days, please change it to 70% alcohol and ship it within 1 week.

#### 2) OCT downstream services (everything should be done in 4C):

- Rinse tissue in ice cold PBS, fixed in 10% formalin or 4% PFA overnight
- Place the tissues in 15% sucrose in 1xPBS until the tissues sinks overnight
- Place the tissues 30% sucrose in 1x PBS until the tissues sinks overnight
- Please send/ship tissues in 30% sucrose.

### FFPE blocks shipping:

Please use a vacuum sealer to pack blocks. Be mindful of the temperature, and add **ice packs** in the shipment container to prevent blocks from melting.

### **OCT blocks shipping:**

Please use a vacuum sealer to pack blocks. Be mindful of the temperature, and add **dry iced** in the shipment container to prevent blocks from melting.

### **Slide Shipping**

- Ensure that all slides are clearly labeled with all relevant information.
- Position the slide firmly in the slide carrier.
- Use a piece of tape to secure the lid of the container.
- Put the sealed slide(s) inside a padded envelope or box.
- For added security, wrap the container with bubble wrap before placing it in the envelope or box.
- Secure the envelope or box with tape.
- If a large collection of envelopes is being shipped, use a sturdy carton or crate to house the envelopes.

**Note: These preservatives are exempt and not regulated by the Department of Transportation. When shipping:**

- DO NOT use the “Dangerous Goods in Excepted Quantities” statement on any shipping documents.