

RELEASE OF SURGICAL PATHOLOGY SPECIMENS TO PATIENTS

If a patient requests the release of an explanted implant and/or residual tissue, follow the below guidelines:

IMPLANT: in all cases of explanted implants, the **Authorization for Release of Explanted Device** form (#13090) **MUST** be completed prior to the procedure. The patient must indicate if they want the specimen returned to them or discarded by pathology.

- **RETENTION TIME: 30 days.** If the patient fails to present within 30 days, the specimen is discarded.
- **RELEASE DATE: 2 weeks** following the procedure

RESIDUAL TISSUE: if the patient would like tissue released post-surgery, the **Authorization for Release of Residual Pathology Specimen** form (#13088) **MUST** be completed prior to the procedure.

- **RETENTION TIME: 60 days.** If the patient fails to present within 60 days, the specimen is discarded.
- **RELEASE DATE: 4 weeks** following the procedure
- Release is subject to approval by the pathologist; known infectious tissue will **NOT** be released to the patient.

NOTES:

- The specimen will **NOT** be sterilized by pathology and should be considered a health hazard as well as bio-hazardous waste.
 - o Hardware is disinfected as efficiently as possible with bleach and soap.
 - o Tissue is thoroughly fixed and rinsed with water.
- Specimens will **NOT** be mailed
- The patient may authorize a designee to pick-up the specimen when completing the form; if there is a change in designee, a new form must be completed.
- Specimens will be available for pick-up (see above for release date) Monday-Friday 0800-1600 at the main campus laboratory front desk, basement level.
- Patients should be advised to call Laboratory Client Services (607-274-4474) to confirm the specimen is ready to be released.
- The patient or authorized designee should be prepared to show valid identification at the time of pick-up.