

Necropsy and Biopsy Requests

1. Animals to be necropsied should be in the cooler no later than 3:00 p.m. and accompanied by a clinician-signed Necropsy and Body Disposition Request form and the death summary. Paperwork will be presented to LADDL Receiving. Necropsy will begin at 1:00 p.m. daily on regular working days.
2. All animals placed in the coolers for necropsy and/or private cremation or for disposal should be tagged according to current protocol. Note: Animals placed in coolers that are not tagged will be disposed after a reasonable attempt to ascertain its identity.
3. On weekends, Necropsy will be performed at 10:00 a.m. Saturdays unless VTH is otherwise notified. On extended holidays of 3 days or more, necropsy will be performed every other day.
4. Because of zoonotic potential and biosafety concerns, the animal remains will **NOT** be released to the owner after necropsy. Private cremations are available.
5. Pathology/Biopsy request forms should be filled out completely and signed by the clinician.
6. All biopsy specimens should be sectioned no more than 5 mm thick, promptly fixed in 10% formalin, properly labeled (on the side of the specimen jar, **NOT** on the lid), and, with a completed biopsy request form, submitted to LADDL Receiving by 12 noon. The amount of formalin to tissue ratio for proper fixation should be at least 10:1.
 - Due to the variance in fixation of certain tissues (due to their composition or their size) there is no guarantee that any given specimen will be processed on the day it is received, and additional fixation/processing time may be necessary. The same would apply for specimens containing bone/mineral content.
 - For tiny specimens arriving between noon and 1 PM, it will be at the discretion of the pathologist/resident on duty as to whether a specimen is justifiably worthy of processing that day.