

This guide outlines the ways NHBR (Northwell Health Biospecimen Repository) specimens are collected specifically for research purposes.

Overview:

- **Purpose:**
NHBR (Northwell Health Biospecimen Repository) specimens are collected **specifically for research purposes**.
- **Labeling and Documentation**
 - **No System Labels:** Unlike routine pathology specimens, **NHBR** specimens do **not** generate labels when you click 'Print Label' in *EPIC*.

 - **Manual Labeling Process:**
OR staff must-
 - Apply a patient sticker manually.
 - Handwrite all required information.
 - Print and manage the requisition **separately** for research.

Specimen Collection Process:

-Routine Diagnostic First:

- **NHBR** does **not** collect at the initial stage.
- **Post-Gross Examination:**
 -The specimen is the first processed for routine diagnostics. **Only after the gross examination** will **NHBR** determine if a section from the clinical case can be collected for research purposes

What you will see:

-Storyboard Banner

- A **purple banner** stating: “**Research Participant – Biobank**” will be shown.
- This signifies that the patient is currently participating in a biobank research study.

The screenshot shows a patient's Epic storyboard banner for Maria OpTime. At the top, there is a circular icon with the letters 'MO' and a grid of medical icons. Below this, the patient's name 'Maria OpTime' is displayed in green, followed by her demographic information: 'Female, 31 y.o., 3/26/1994', 'MRN: 10110921', 'Bed: LHH OR POOL', 'Cur Location: LHH OR', 'Code: Assume Full (No documents)', and 'Pronouns: None'. Two orange buttons are visible: 'Transplants: Transplant' and 'HIPAA Document: Received'. Below these, it says 'Isolation: None' and a purple banner with a magnifying glass icon reads 'Research Participant [Biobank]'. A red alert icon indicates 'Difficult Airway'. Under 'Allergies:', a yellow button reads 'Strawberry Leaves Extract'. The physician information section shows a profile icon for 'Physician Obstetrics-Gynecology, MD' and 'PCP - General'. The 'PROCEDURES' section lists 'Craniotomy - Evacuation of Hematoma - Subdural' performed by 'John M. Caridi, MD' on 'Proc, OR 03'.

Maria OpTime
Female, 31 y.o., 3/26/1994
MRN: 10110921
Bed: LHH OR POOL
Cur Location: LHH OR
Code: Assume Full
(No documents)
Pronouns: None

Transplants: **Transplant**
HIPAA Document: **Received**

Isolation: None
Research Participant [Biobank]
Difficult Airway

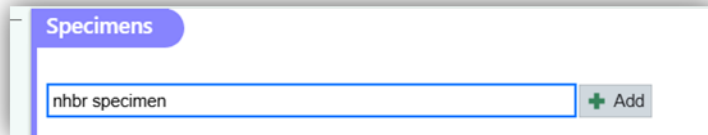
Allergies:
Strawberry Leaves Extract

Physician Obstetrics-
Gynecology, MD
PCP - General

PROCEDURES
Craniotomy - Evacuation of
Hematoma - Subdural
John M. Caridi, MD
Proc, OR 03

Entering the NHBR in the specimen Navigator

- In the Specimen section, search/type **NHBR Specimen** and click 

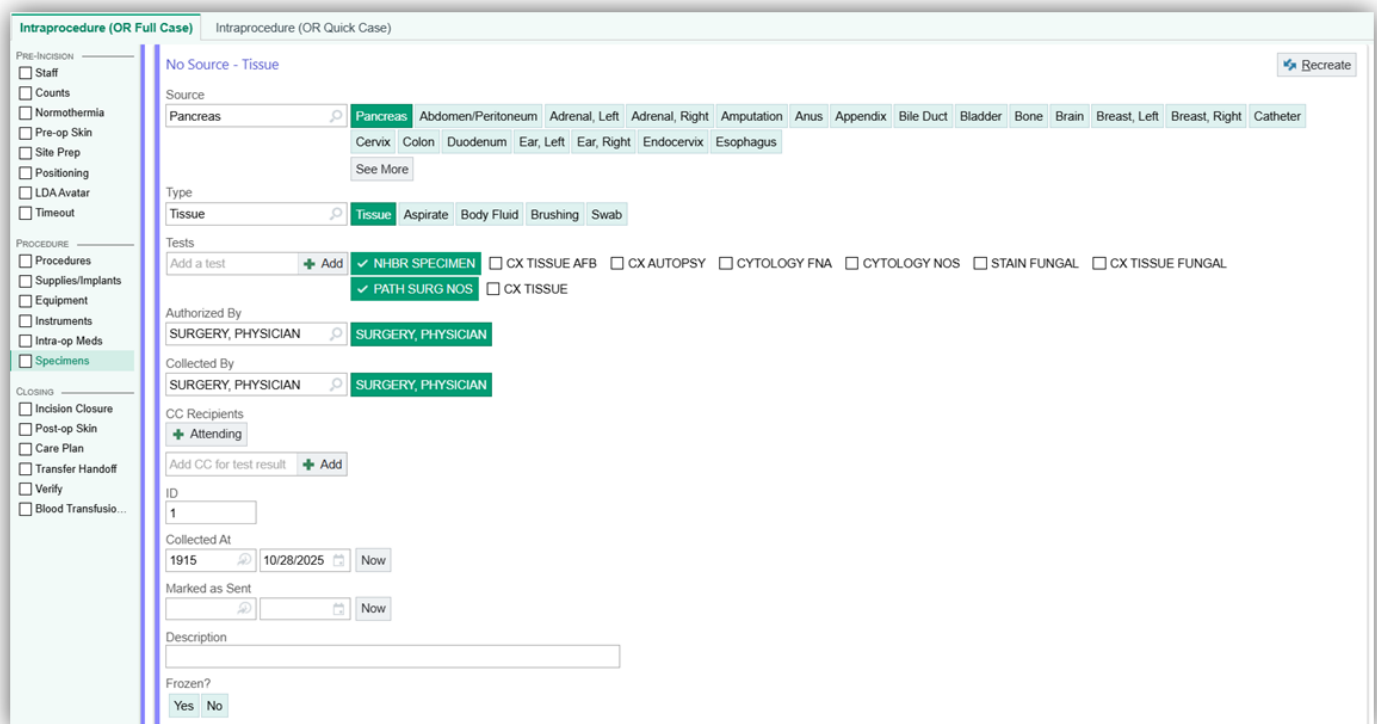


Specimens

nhbr specimen 

After clicking add. Continue to document the **Source** by selecting on the pre-populated selections available for sources. The **Type** is Tissue

If you need to update any specimen details like source or type, click the magnifying glass icon in the field and select the appropriate Source or Type. Then Accept.



Intraoperative (OR Full Case) Intraoperative (OR Quick Case) 

PRE-INCISION

- ☐ Staff
- ☐ Counts
- ☐ Normothermia
- ☐ Pre-op Skin
- ☐ Site Prep
- ☐ Positioning
- ☐ LDA Avatar
- ☐ Timeout

PROCEDURE

- ☐ Procedures
- ☐ Supplies/Implants
- ☐ Equipment
- ☐ Instruments
- ☐ Intra-op Meds
- ☒ Specimens

CLOSING

- ☐ Incision Closure
- ☐ Post-op Skin
- ☐ Care Plan
- ☐ Transfer Handoff
- ☐ Verify
- ☐ Blood Transfusio...

No Source - Tissue

Source

Pancreas  Pancreas Abdomen/Peritoneum Adrenal, Left Adrenal, Right Amputation Anus Appendix Bile Duct Bladder Bone Brain Breast, Left Breast, Right Catheter Cervix Colon Duodenum Ear, Left Ear, Right Endocervix Esophagus See More

Type

Tissue  Tissue Aspirate Body Fluid Brushing Swab

Tests

Add a test  ☒ NHBR SPECIMEN ☐ CX TISSUE AFB ☐ CX AUTOPSY ☐ CYTOLOGY FNA ☐ CYTOLOGY NOS ☐ STAIN FUNGAL ☐ CX TISSUE FUNGAL ☒ PATH SURG NOS ☐ CX TISSUE

Authorized By

SURGERY, PHYSICIAN  SURGERY, PHYSICIAN

Collected By

SURGERY, PHYSICIAN  SURGERY, PHYSICIAN

CC Recipients

 Attending

Add CC for test result 

ID

1

Collected At

1915  10/28/2025  Now

Marked as Sent

  Now

Description

Frozen?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Scenario 1: Single Specimen, Two Tests (One Jar)

- **When to Use:** When only one tissue sample is collected, both clinical Pathology and NHBR research processing are required from the same specimen.
- **Ordering Steps:**
 - Place a single order for the specimen but select both Path Surg and NHBR as tests (NHBR is not a true test, but a flag for research subdivision).
 - The specimen will be placed in one jar.
 - Only one printed label will print for the pathology order; NHBR will be indicated on the requisition paper for the lab to subdivide the tissue for research.
 - The lab will use the requisition to know how to split the sample for NHBR.

NHBR does NOT collect first. The specimen comes in for routine diagnostics. Upon gross examination, ONLY THEN would NHBR determine if a section from the clinical case can be collected for research.

The screenshot displays the 'IntraProcedure (OR)' interface. On the left, a sidebar contains navigation menus for 'Pre-Incision', 'PROCEDURE', and 'CLOSING'. The main area is titled 'IntraProcedure (OR Full Case)' and 'IntraProcedure (OR Quick Case)'. A 'Specimens' section shows a table with one entry: ID 1, Specimen 'Pancreas - Tissue', Collected By 'Fozia Lashari, PA at 1216', and Tests 'PATH SURG NOS' and 'NHBR SPECIMEN'. Below this, the 'Additional Information' section includes 'Diagnosis Codes' with 'Acute abdominal pain syndrome' and a 'Comments' field with 'Pre-op diagnosis: Acute abdominal pain syndrome [R10.0]'. At the bottom, there are 'Selection Buttons' for 'Print Label (1)', 'Print Requisition (1)', and 'Mark as Sent (1)', along with 'Previous' and 'Next' navigation buttons.

ID	Specimen	Collected By	Tests
1	Pancreas - Tissue	Fozia Lashari, PA at 1216	PATH SURG NOS NHBR SPECIMEN

Diagnosis Codes: Acute abdominal pain syndrome

Comments: Pre-op diagnosis: Acute abdominal pain syndrome [R10.0]

Print Label (1) | Print Requisition (1) | Mark as Sent (1)

Previous | Next

Scenario 2: Two Separate Specimens (Two Jars)

- **When to Use:** When the surgeon or proceduralist collects two distinct tissue samples—one for clinical Pathology (Path Surg) and one for research (NHBR).
- **Ordering Steps-**
 - **Ordering Steps:**
 - Place a separate order for each specimen: one order for Pathology (Path Surg) and a separate order for NHBR.
 - Each specimen will be placed in its own jar.
 - i. The first specimen is the Pathology specimen and will receive a label
 - ii. The second specimen is the research specimen taken by the surgeon in the OR will have a patient label
 - The Pathology specimen will receive a printed label; the NHBR specimen will use patient sticker label.
 - This ensures clear separation and tracking of clinical and research samples.

NHBR does NOT collect first. The specimen comes in for routine diagnostics. Upon gross examination, ONLY THEN, would NHBR determine if a section from the clinical case can be collected for research.

The screenshot displays the 'Intraprocedure (OR)' interface. On the left, a sidebar contains checkboxes for 'Pre-Incision' (Staff, Counts, Normothermia, Pre-op Skin, Site Prep, Positioning, LDA Avatar, Timeout) and 'Procedure' (Procedures, Supplies/Implants, Equipment, Instruments, Intra-op Meds, Specimens). Below this is a 'Closing' section with checkboxes for Incision Closure, Post-op Skin, Care Plan, Transfer Handoff, Verify, and Blood Transfusion. The main area is titled 'Specimens' and includes a search bar, 'Add' button, and 'Refresh' button. A table lists two specimens under the 'Pathology' group:

ID	Specimen	Collected By	Tests
1	Pancreas - Tissue Description: —	Fozia Lashari, PA at 1245	• PATH SURG NOS
2	Pancreas - Tissue Description: —	Fozia Lashari, PA at 1246	• NHBR SPECIMEN

Below the table is the 'Additional Information' section, which includes 'Diagnosis Codes' (with 'Acute abdominal pain syndrome' selected), 'Comments' (with 'Pre-op diagnosis: Acute abdominal pain syndrome [R10.0]'), and action buttons for 'Print Label (2)', 'Print Requisition (2)', and 'Mark as Sent (2)'. At the bottom, there are 'Selection Buttons' and navigation links for 'Previous' and 'Next'.

Requisition Handling

In the Specimen Navigator, you can manage how the NHBR specimen appears on the requisition:

- **Check the box** → include the specimen in the same requisition printout as pathology specimens.
- **Uncheck the box** → keep it separate and generate a distinct requisition printout for the biobank specimen.
- Both requisitions can then be:
 - Sent to the **lab** for processing or tracking
 - Forwarded to the **research team** for biobank collection.

The preferred option is to check both boxes and include both specimens (PATH SURG NOS and NHBR Specimen) in the same requisition printout as indicated below.

Intraoperative (OR)

Events • Revise Card • Notify Family • Cost Receipt • Chat Forwarding

Intraoperative (OR Full Case) Intraoperative (OR Quick Case)

Specimens

Complete ↑ ↓

Refresh Show Specimens marked as sent (0) Restore Uncollected Lab Orders

ID	Specimen	Collected By	Tests
1	Pancreas - Tissue Description: —	SURGERY, PHYSICIAN at 1915	• PATH SURG NOS
2	Pancreas - Tissue Description: —	Physician Surgery, MD at 1920	• NHBR SPECIMEN

Additional Information

Diagnosis Codes

Add a diagnosis code + Add ☐ Hernia ☒ Pancreatitis without necrosis or infection

Comments

Pre-op diagnosis: Pancreatitis

Print Label (2) Print Requisition (2) Mark as Sent (2)

Previous Next

Requisition (aka Completion form) sample if combined pathology and NHBR is printed out.

10/28/25, 7:25 PM Labtesttwo, Pttwelve (MRN: 10130544) DOB: 6/6/1970 MRN: 10130544

Pttwelve Labtesttwo

Log ID: 25465

Pre-op Diagnosis

Diagnosis	ICD Code
Hernia	K46.9

Infection and Isolation Status

None

Panel Information

Panel 1

Surgeon	Role
OPTIME, GENERIC SURGEON	Primary
Procedure	Anesthesia
Hernia - Inguinal - Open [49491 (CPT®) +1 more]	General
Laterality	
N/A	

General Information

Date: 10/28/2025	Time: 0735	Status: Unposted
Location: LHH OR	Room: OR 14	Service: General Surgery
Patient class: Inpatient	Case classification: C - Add-On	Case type:
Trauma case?:		

OR Phone Number

Specimens

ID	Source	Type	Tests	Collected By	Collected At	Frz?	Priority	Lab ID
1	Pancreas	Tissue	• PATH SURG NOS	Physician Surgery, MD	10/28/25 1915	Yes		
2	Pancreas	Tissue	• NHBR SPECIMEN	Physician Surgery, MD	10/28/25 1920			

Additional Information

Diagnosis codes: Pancreatitis without necrosis or infection [K85.90]

Signatures

I affirm that this form is accurate and the specimen(s) are labeled appropriately

REQ Attending: _____
(Print) (Signature)

Contact # _____ Date/Time: _____

Copy to Attending: (Print) _____

Nurse: _____
(Print) (Signature)

Contact # _____ Date/Time: _____