

Case Alerts - Identifying slide locations for external biopsies and Frozen specimen requests

This tipsheet reviews two case requesting and scheduling workflows regarding specimens and pathology. First, we will review how to identify the slide location for external biopsies – biopsies done by the patient at a non-Northwell facility – brought in for review prior to a surgical case. Second, we will review how to indicate on the case request or case at the time of scheduling, that the surgeon plans to take frozen specimens and how that information is communicated to the lab.

Identifying slide location for external biopsies

Surgeons and other clinical staff will be able to identify the slide location when submitting a case request order or transcribing the order to Epic.

- In the Case Request order this would be documented by using the Case Alerts question and selecting Biopsy Performed. The details can be listed in the "Biopsy Performed Details/Location" box shown here:

Special Request ☐ Equipment ☐ Laser ☐ Instrument ☐ Supply ☐ Implant/Vendor ☐ Bed/Table ☐ Pathology Consult ☐ Positioning ☐ Pre-Surgical Block

☐ Additional Support Staff

Case Alert Reason ☐ Anti-coagulants ☒ **Biopsy performed** ☐ Frozen specimen ☐ Impairments ☐ Pacemaker/AICD

Biopsy performed details/location
MSK on 9/25/2025

Case Alerts Comment

- This carries through to the scheduling view ("Case Entry"). Surgical Coordinators and Schedulers also have the opportunity to transcribe the information if it was not included in the case request. This is done using the Case Alerts section and selecting the Biopsy Performed option. :

Special Requests

Equipment Laser Instrument Supply Implant/Vendor Bed/Table Pathology Consult Positioning Pre-Surgical Block

Case Alerts ☐ Anti-coagulants ☒ **Biopsy performed** ☐ Frozen specimen ☐ Impairments ☐ Pacemaker/AICD

Biopsy performed details/location
Mount Sinai on 9/30/2025

Case Alerts (comments):

Epic Tip Sheet



- Entering this data using either method will allow the information to be pulled into the report “NH Pathology Slide Review Report” for review by the pathology team at each site and to assist them in initiating the slide review process

☒ Procedure Pass Detail List Explore Filter								
Patient Info	Location/Department	Procedure	Pathology Slide Review Status	Procedure Date	Provider	Days Until Surgery/ Procedure	Biopsy Performed Details	Patient Class
Optime, Erasone [10100358] Female 62 years	LHH OR	Colectomy - Hemi - Right - Open [1079900137]	Started	11/04/2025	Physician Surgery, Md	15	MSK on 9/22/2025	Outpatient Surgery
OpTime, Grace [10100094] Female 7 years	LHH OR	Biopsy - Breast W Localization [1079901068]	Not Started	11/10/2025	Physician Surgery, Md	21	Mount Sinai on 9/30/2025	Outpatient Surgery

How to indicate frozen specimen request when booking a case

If a surgeon plans to take frozen specimens for review by the lab during a case, the ordering surgeon or ACP can indicate that in their case request.

- Within the Case Alerts question, they would select the “Frozen Specimen” option as shown below:

Special Request

☐ Equipment
 ☐ Laser
 ☐ Instrument
 ☐ Supply
 ☐ Implant/Vendor
 ☐ Bed/Table
 ☐ Pathology Consult
 ☐ Positioning
 ☐ Pre-Surgical Block
 ☐ Additional Support Staff

Case Alert Reason

☐ Anti-coagulants
 ☐ Biopsy performed
 ☒ Frozen specimen
 ☐ Impairments
 ☐ Pacemaker/AICD

Case Alerts Comment

This will also show on the scheduling view within Case Entry. Similar to other options within case scheduling, Surgical Coordinators and schedulers do have the ability to transcribe this option as well:

Special Requests

Equipment

Laser

Instrument

Supply

Implant/Vendor

Bed/Table

Pathology Consult

Positioning

Pre-Surgical Block

Case Alerts

Anti-coagulants

Biopsy performed

Frozen specimen

Impairments

Pacemaker/AICD

Case Alerts (comments):

Once the case is scheduled, the lab will be able to see these requests in their “NH OR Frozen Specimen Request Status” report as indicated in the “Frozen Specimen” column:

Open Case Open Chart Detail List Explore Filter Re-run Report								
Date	Status	Surgeons	Patient Name	Service	Case Procedures	Patient Class	Location	Frozen Specimen
10/25/25	Sch	SURGERY, PHYSICIAN [E1032]	Optime, Christopher [10113078]	General Surgery	Appendectomy - Open [1079900029]	Outpatient Surgery	LHH OR	W
11/10/25	Sch	OPTIME, GENERIC SURGEON [E1082]	Optime, Arthur [10110907]	General Surgery	Appendectomy - Robotic Laparoscopic - (XI) [1079900030]	Surgery Admit	LHH OR	W

Version Control			
Date:	Application/Editor:	Description of update:	Version:
10/20/25	R Porter	Created for	1.0
			1.1
			1.2