

Biopsy Procedure



***Do not inject anesthesia into biopsy site, injection should be around the biopsy site and directly below.**

1. Select area to be biopsied.
2. The skin is cleansed with an alcohol swab or povidone-iodine solution and anesthetized with 1-2% lidocaine with epinephrine. A 30-gauge needle is used to administer the anesthetic to limit discomfort.
3. The lines of least skin tension should be identified for the area to be biopsied. For example, on the arm, these lines run perpendicular to the long axis of the extremity. The incision line created by the suturing after the biopsy is performed will be oriented parallel to the lines of least skin tension.
4. The skin surrounding the biopsy site is stretched with the thumb and index finger of the non dominant hand. The skin is stretched perpendicular to the lines of least skin tension. When the skin relaxes after the biopsy is performed, an elliptical-shaped wound remains that is oriented in the same direction as the lines of least skin tension.
5. The punch biopsy instrument is held vertically over the skin and rotated downward using a twirling motion created by the first two fingers on the dominant hand. Once the instrument has penetrated the dermis into the subcutaneous fat, or once the instrument reaches the hub, it is removed.
6. The cylindrical skin specimen is elevated with the provided forceps held in the non-dominant hand. Scissors held in the dominant hand cut the specimen free from the subcutaneous tissues if necessary. The cut is made below the level of the dermis.
7. Note about specimen handling: carefully grab only the skin edge of the biopsy specimen as to not crush the tissue. A poorly handled sample can make diagnosis unnecessarily difficult or impossible.
8. Place biopsy specimen in the provided formalin container and close securely.
9. Once the biopsy has been removed from the skin, use the provided 2 by 2 sterile gauze to stop the initial bleeding. A dab of vasoline, aluminum chloride, or another topical hemostatic agent of your choice may be necessary to stop the bleeding. The biopsy site is then covered with a band-aid, and possibly fortified with gauze and paper tape if the bleeding threatens to soak the band-aid and/or the patient's clothing. This "hole" in the skin will continue to bleed for the rest of the day and may or may not form a scab in a few days time. This quick procedure does not require stitches.
10. The biopsy site should be kept clean. The site should not be submerged in water (i.e. no swimming, hot tubs, baths, etc.) for at least 24 hours. The bandage will need to be changed at least once a day, and should be changed if it should become wet or damp.
11. Billing Info The appropriate CPT code for the first biopsy is 11104, and each additional biopsy should be billed with the code 11105.

Reference:

<http://www.aafp.org/afp/2002/0315/p1155.html>

Biopsy

Procedure (Continued)

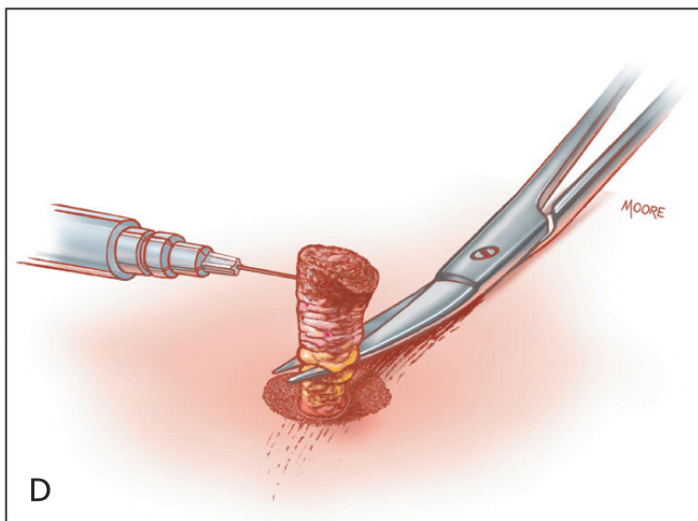
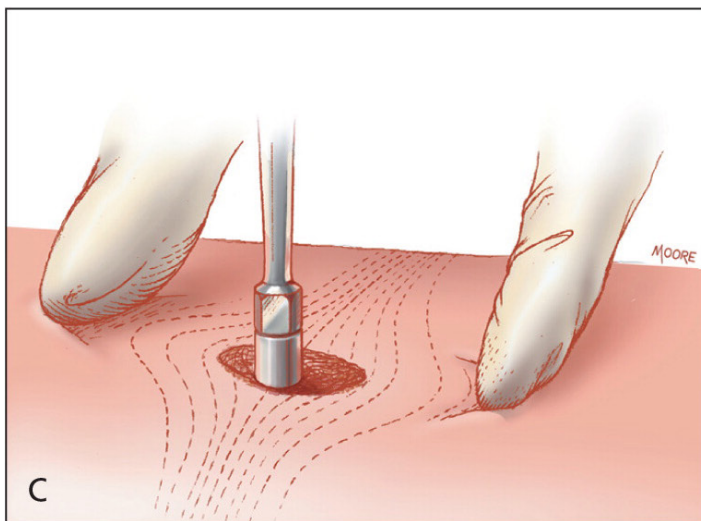
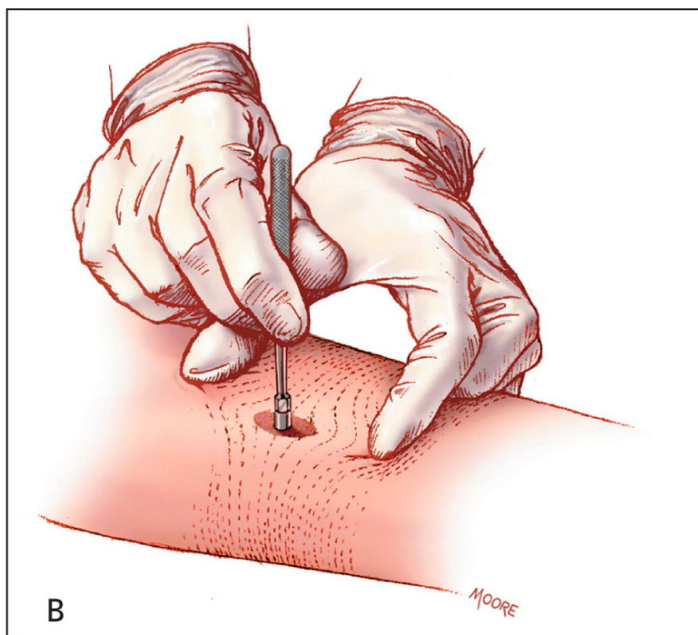
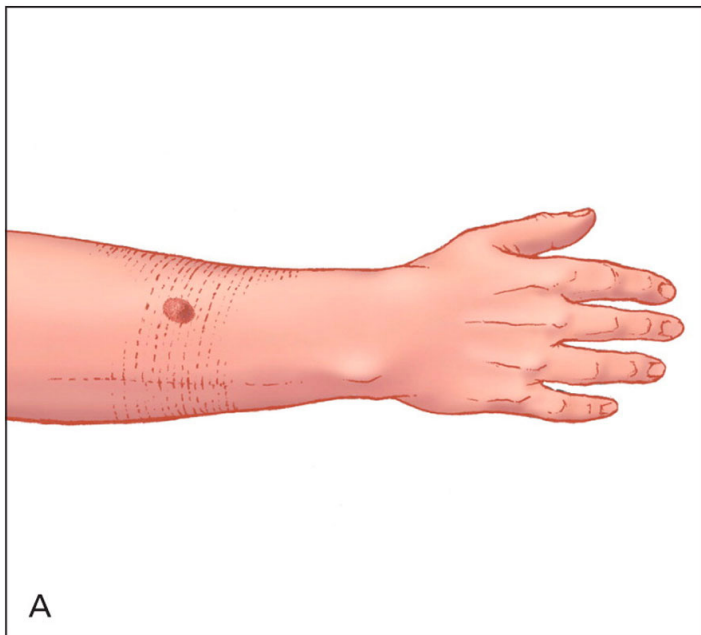


ILLUSTRATION BY MARK MOORE

Specimen Packaging & Shipping Instructions

Biopsy Sample

Specimen Shipping Supplies:

Biopsy Kit (with 3mm punch biopsy)
Specimen Tube with Zamboni's
Fixative
Tube Label
Requisition Form

Specimen Collection Supplies:

Freezer Pack (must be frozen)
Kangaroo Mailer
UPS Laboratory Pak
Shipping Label
Saturday Delivery Label

Packaging and Shipping Instructions:

1. Complete requisition form and place in outside pocket of biohazard bag
2. Perform 3mm punch biopsy.
3. Remove cap from collection tube.
4. Using tweezers, place tissue in the tube containing zamboni's fixative. Make sure to fully submerge the specimen in the fixative. Note: tubes containing zamboni's fixative can be stored at room temperature or refrigerated until specimen is collected.
5. Tightly replace cap on tube.
6. Write patient name, DOB, and biopsy site on the label.
7. Place label on the collection tube.
8. Put specimen tube in biohazard bag.
9. Immediately place biohazard bag with specimen and requisition form in the refrigerator or in Kangaroo Mailer Pouch with frozen freezer pack for immediate shipping.**
10. Seal the mailer pouch. Using a pen or scissors, puncture the mailer where indicated.
11. Place the sealed mailer into the provided UPS Laboratory Pak, and place the shipping label on the Lab Pak. **If sample will be delivered on a Saturday, affix the Saturday Delivery sticker to the Lab Pak as well.**

**Once specimen is in zamboni's fixative, it must immediately put in the refrigerator or in an insulated mailer on ice. Overnight shipping is required to keep the specimen viable for testing.

To schedule a pickup please email us at this address: shipping@ipsumdiagnostics.com

Shipping phone number: **256-963-9385** (If you are within 5 hours of the pickup time request, we need you to call this number)

Please schedule a UPS pickup with your representative prior to, or as early as possible the day of specimen collection. Friday shipments must be arranged directly with Ipsum Diagnostics as these require a special "Saturday Delivery" label.