

	Skin Biopsy Transport Protocol		SOP-1005
			Version: 002
	Approved By:	Approval Date:	Effective Date: 11/09/2011
			Managing Director: Lisa McLean

I. Purpose:

This document applies to clinicians or lab personal who ship human skin punch biopsies to the University of Michigan. It describes the options available for transporting human skin tissue.

II. Procedures:

- A. Method A:** This is the most probable and acceptable method. Additionally, there is little to no chance of a problem during shipping.
1. After the biopsies have been fixed in Zamboni fixative for 12 hours, (Newcomer Supply Co. Catalog # 1459A. Fixative is 2% PFA and 0.3% picric acid in PBS) remove fixative and place samples in 30% sucrose.
 2. Send to the University of Michigan (shipped on ice) within 2 weeks.
- B. Method B:** There is the potential for disaster during processing and shipping if there is a delay, the dry ice sublimates & the samples thaw.
3. After the biopsies have been fixed in Zamboni's for 12 hours, place samples in 30% sucrose for 1 day.
 4. Embed samples in OCT (see SOP-1003). It is crucial that this is done correctly. Please use method A if not able to follow this protocol exactly.
 5. Send samples the University of Michigan on dry ice.

III. Safety:

1. The Paraformaldehyde is a possible carcinogen. Extreme caution should be taken when handling this chemical.
2. The skin samples are to be treated as potential hazards and should be handled as such, according to the University of Michigan's Universal Precautions Policies.

IV. Shipping Address: (Overnight)

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