

Processing, transporting and disposal of limb amputation specimens

Limb amputation specimens from the Regional, Affiliate, and non-Allina Health Hospitals using Allina Health Pathology services will be transported to Allina Health Central Laboratory for processing and disposal via the transport container shown below.



The Limb Transport Container can be requested via the Supply Catalog under the Histology Hospital AP supplies on the Allina Health Laboratory website.

*Note: The Limb Transport container must be requested **at least one day prior** to the amputation specimen being collected. Because limb amputation specimens are too large to be submitted in 10% Neutral Buffered formalin, it is imperative that they are delivered to the Allina Health Central Laboratory for processing **on the day of collection** to maintain specimen integrity. If a Limb Transport container was not requested prior to limb amputation arrival in the site lab, call Allina Health Central Lab Histology at (612) 813-0610 for specimen transport alternatives.*

Once requested, the Limb Transport container will be routed to the requesting lab with the next available supply courier. Containers will be delivered Monday - Friday

Packaging:

- Limb amputations should be refrigerated until packaged for transport
- Limb amputations should be packaged for transport as close to the time of courier pick-up as possible
- Limbs must be double bagged in red biohazard bags prior to placement in the container
- Package with ice packs
 - *Do not use actual ice in bags as it will melt and create the potential for bio-hazardous leaking*
 - Paperwork should be put in a plastic bag and placed inside of the Transport container before securing.

Transport:

- *Because limb amputation specimens are too large to be submitted in 10% Neutral Buffered formalin, it is imperative that they are delivered to the Allina Health Central Laboratory for processing **on the day of collection** to maintain specimen integrity.*
- Limbs can be sent to the Allina Health Central Lab Monday through Friday.

Questions can be directed to Allina Health Client Services at (612) 863-4678 or (800) 281-4379 or to Central Lab Histology at (612) 863-0610.