

CURRENT ISSUES IN TISSUE RESOURCES
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I want any breast tumor

I want a whole brain

I want 500 samples of synovial cell sarcoma

I want a whole beating heart

I want a whole spinal column

I want 10 cm of normal ascending aorta removed at surgery

I want a 500 gram breast carcinoma

I want a breast carcinoma processed within 5 minutes of removal from body

I want breast, lung, pancreatic carcinoma with 100%, 75%, or 50% cellularity

Frequently a request for tissue is not understood by the requestor at the time it is made! Try to discuss with investigator to make the request “real.”

I want a whole
beating heart

I want 10 cm of
normal aorta
removed at surgery

Some requests are impossible, very rare, unlikely; for others, you have to stand in line.

I want any
breast tumor

ISSUE #1-NEOADJUVANT THERAPY

Many tumors are treated prior to surgical removal. This definitely changes the biology of the tumor. Cellularity is reduced and all types of cells respond differently to neoadjuvant therapy (e.g., stem cells may be increased).

I want any
breast tumor

ISSUE #1b- REQUESTS SHOULD BE SPECIFIC.

“TUMOR” BENIGN? SARCOMA? DUCTAL?

I want a 500
gram breast
carcinoma

ISSUE 2-WITH BETTER SCREENING, TUMORS ARE SMALLER OR MAY BE *IN SITU* CARCINOMAS; SAMPLES FOR RESEARCH USUALLY ARE NOT AVAILABLE FROM SMALL TUMORS OR *IN SITU* DISEASE.

REQUESTS FOR LARGE SAMPLES USUALLY ARE MET ONLY AFTER REQUESTS FOR SMALL SAMPLES ARE FILLED-MAKE YOUR METHODS MICRO-.

I want a whole
brain

I want a whole
beating heart

**ISSUE 3-DIAGNOSTIC NEEDS
ALWAYS COME FIRST.**

I want 10 cm of
normal aorta
removed at surgery

I want 500
samples of
synovial cell
sarcoma

**ISSUE 4 –MAKE REQUESTS
REASONABLE. 500 CASES OF A
VERY RARE TUMOR WOULD
NOT BE MET EVEN IF THEY
WERE AVAILABLE.**

I want a whole
spinal column

**ISSUE 5-WHILE TISSUE MIGHT
BE AVAILABLE THE EFFORT
NEEDED TO OBTAIN THE
TISSUE MIGHT NOT BE.**

I want a breast
carcinoma
processed within 5
minutes of
removal from body

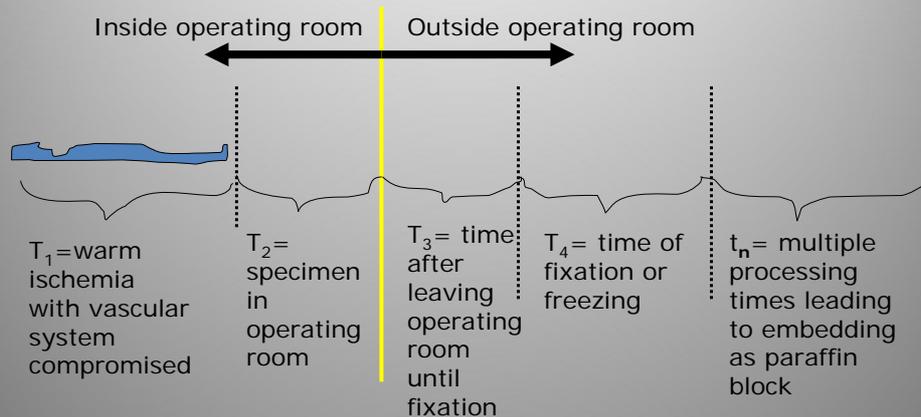
**ISSUE 6- IT TAKES TIME TO
PROCESS TISSUES; ABOUT 15-20
MINUTES ARE REQUIRED FOR
JUST 1 OR 2 ALIQUOTS.**

***IS RAPID PROCESSING REALLY
NECESSARY FOR YOUR STUDY.***

ISSUES IN TISSUE RESOURCES

Processing

Time from removal from patient until tissue is embedded in a paraffin block or frozen



WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT mRNA AND TIME AFTER TISSUE REMOVAL FROM THE BODY?

NEEDLE BX VS SURGICAL REMOVAL

For surgical removal there is warm ischemia while the organ has its vascular system compromised at body temperature. Probably most genes with unstable mRNA decay during this period.

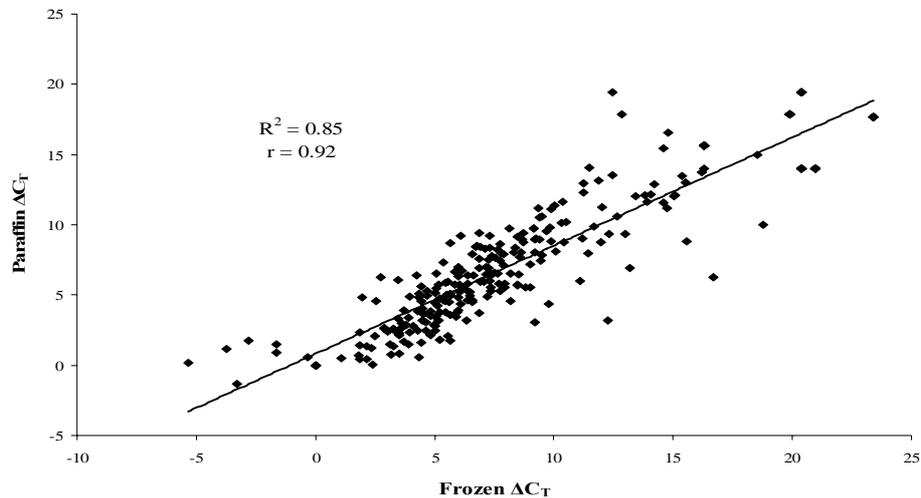
For surgical removal, 20-30 % of genes have increased expression in 1st hour after removal of tissue from the body due to stress genes. Most other genes do not change their expression. If mRNA is intact immediately after surgery, in most cases, it remains intact but may decline in quality as measured by RIN. The hope is the quality is adequate.

Special cases- prostates removed robotically

At least 1 hr added to warm ischemia time compared to non-robotic surgery.

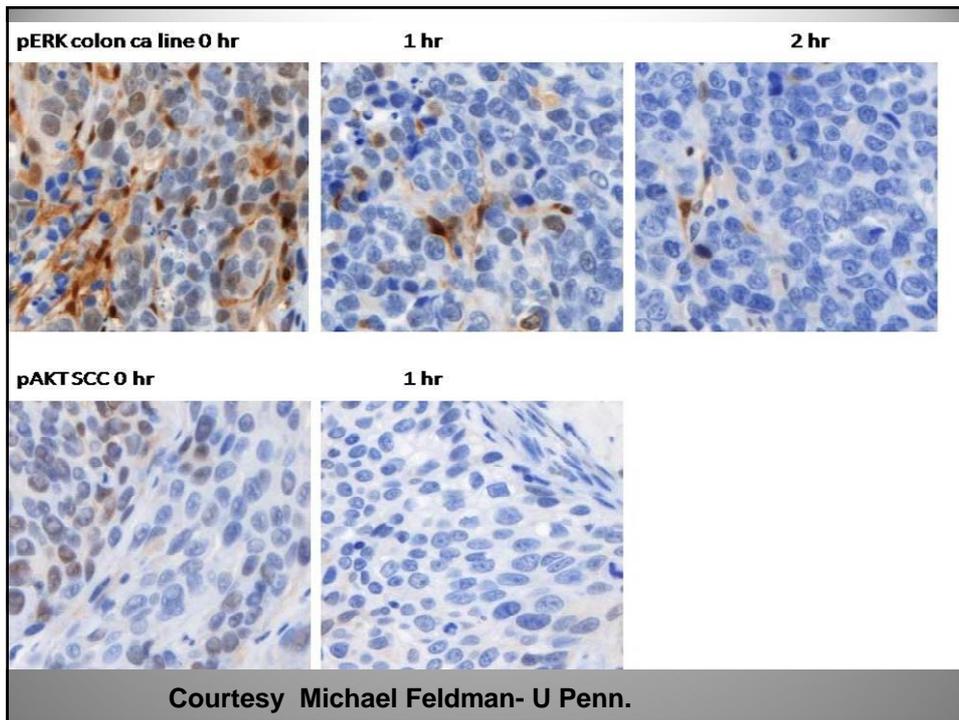
Is the mRNA useful?

Correlation in total RNA isolated from snap frozen vs paraffin embedded ovarian endometrioid carcinomas (#7) in the MA-RT-Q-PCR analysis of 90 genes of Wnt-hedgehog pathway or related



BIAS IN TISSUE RESOURCES

Many proteins may degenerate after tissue is removed from the body; of special concern are phosphoproteins perhaps due to the action of phosphatases.



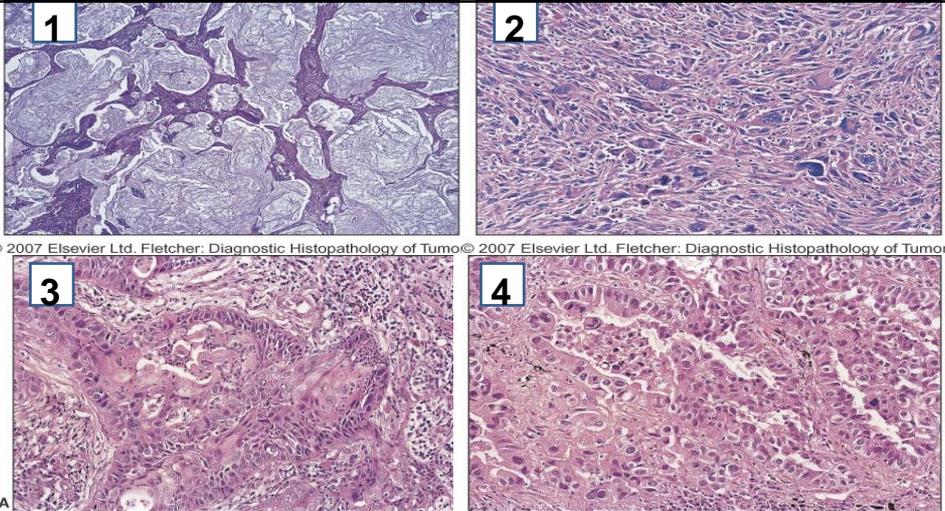
Ischemic time (Animal models, human xenografts)

| Antigen | Ischemic time (hrs) | | | St dev/ave |
|---------|---------------------|-------|-------|------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | |
| pERK | 0.335 | 0.213 | 0.201 | 30% |
| Ki67 | 0.380 | 0.342 | 0.352 | 5% |
| pAKT | 0.156 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 173% |
| pS6 | 0.348 | 0.320 | 0.320 | 5% |
| PStat3 | 0.336 | 0.299 | 0.296 | 7% |
| pEGFR | 0.298 | 0.316 | 0.313 | 3% |

Provided by Michael Feldman at U. Penn

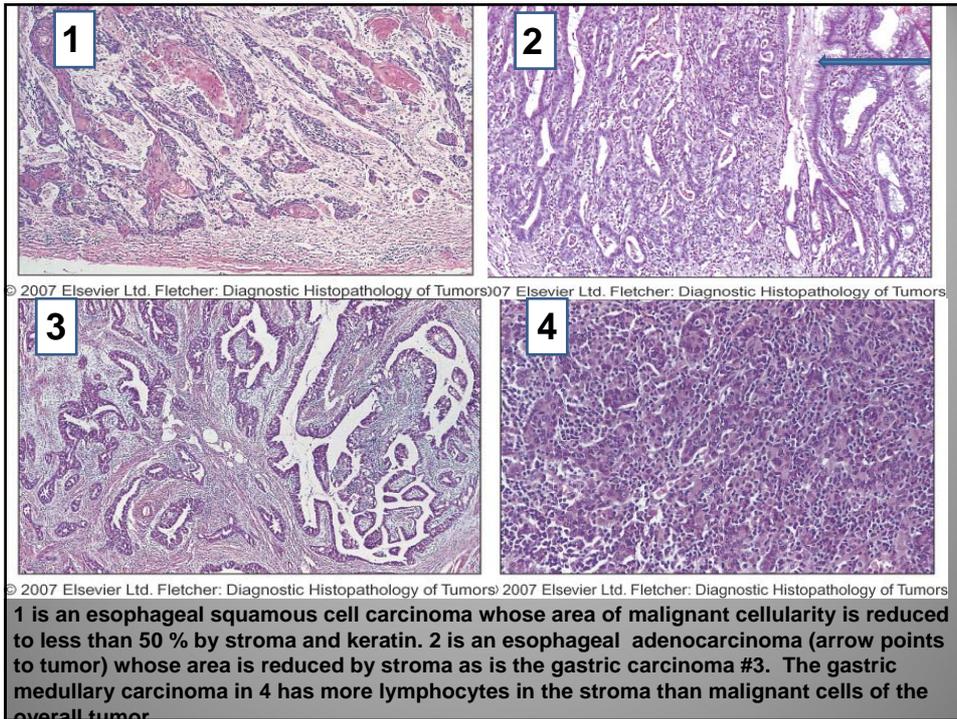
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lung, pancreatic
carcinoma with 100%
,75%, or 50% cellularity

ISSUE 7-MANY REQUESTS
DO NOT FOLLOW THE
BIOLOGY OF THE DISEASE -
UNDERSTAND THE PATHOLOGY-MANY
TUMORS DO NOT GROW WITH THIS
LEVEL OF CELLULARITY



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These are four examples of lung tumors taken from "DIAGNOSTIC PATHOLOGY OF TUMORS 3RD EDITION BY FLETCHER ET AL. The first example is a typical mucinous tumor; all the cellularity is malignant but the AREA of malignant cells is reduced by mucin. In the second and 4th examples, the AREA OF TUMOR is reduced by stroma and/or necrosis. In the 3rd example the area of malignant cells is about 50%; however the inflammatory cells in the stroma may exceed the number of malignant cells.



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ISSUE 8- STRICT REQUIREMENTS MAY INDUCE BIAS; BIAS MAY BE CAUSED BY MANY FACTORS
 SIZE, CELLULARITY, STAGE, GRADE
BIAS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN BODILY FLUIDS.

BIAS IN TISSUE RESOURCES

Potential Sources of Bias

Population (age, race, sex)

Patient/Control- Homeostasis
Fasting/Stress/Co-morbidity

Sample Collection- Times Involved

Sample Processing –Type, Volume,
Time of Fixation, Processor

Variables Storage of Blocks -

Length, Temp Slides -Length, Temp

Storage Methods

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
among sites.

BIAS IN TISSUE RESOURCES

Paraffin Processed

Solid Tissues -Uses

Biology of Disease

Progression

Diagnosis

Prognosis

Prediction

Early Detection

Surrogate Endpoints

Targets for Therapy

Tumor

Subcategorization

Paraffin Processed

Solid Tissues –Methods

Immunohistochemistry

Histochemistry

In Situ Hybridization

RT-PCR

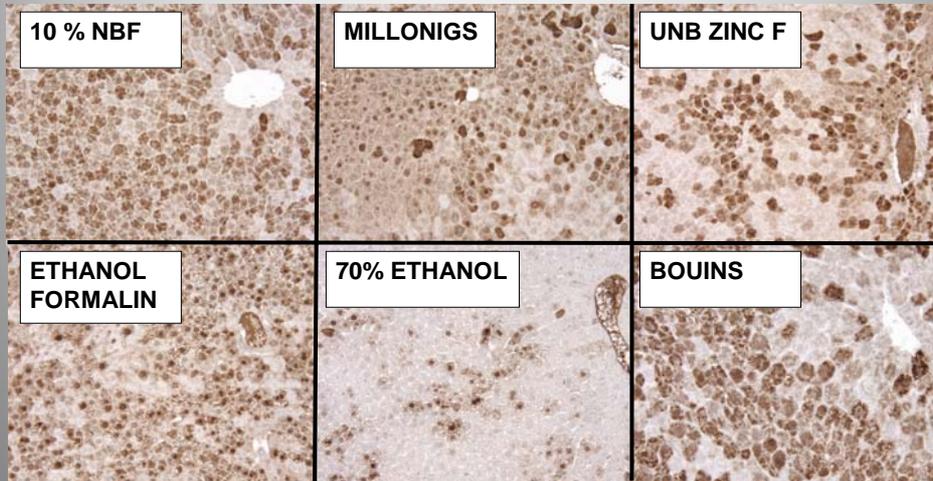
Ultra Structural

Analysis

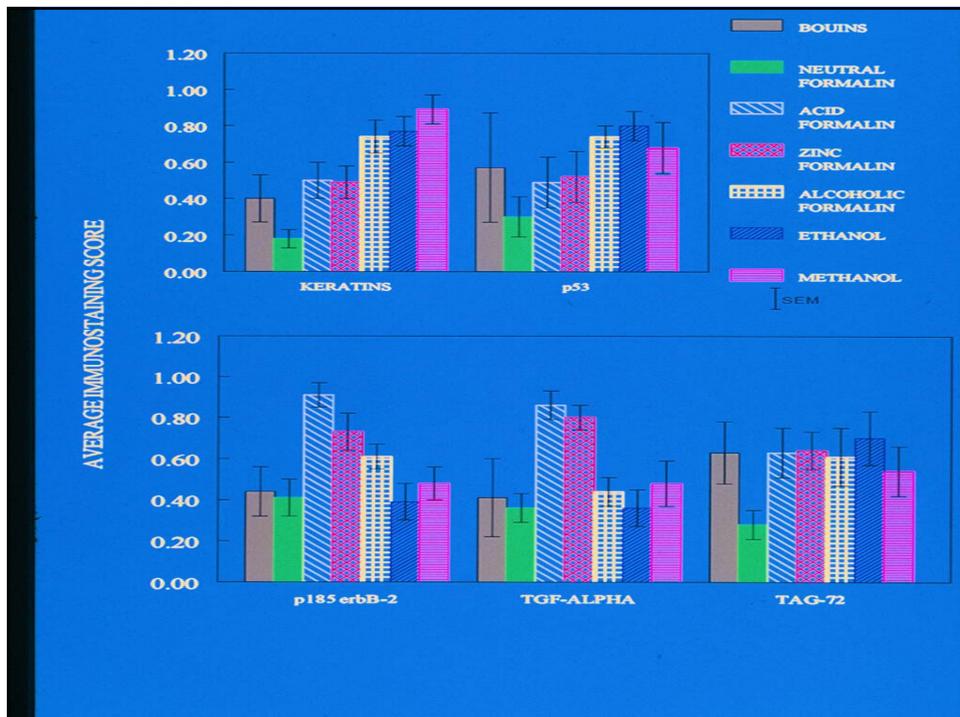
Cytomorphometric

Analysis

EFFECT OF DIFFERENT FIXATIVES ON DEMONSTRATION OF CMV TRANSFECTION IN THE SAME LIVER OF A MOUSE



Note both the patterns and intensity change

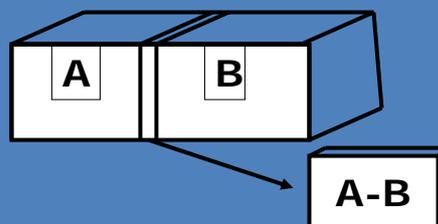


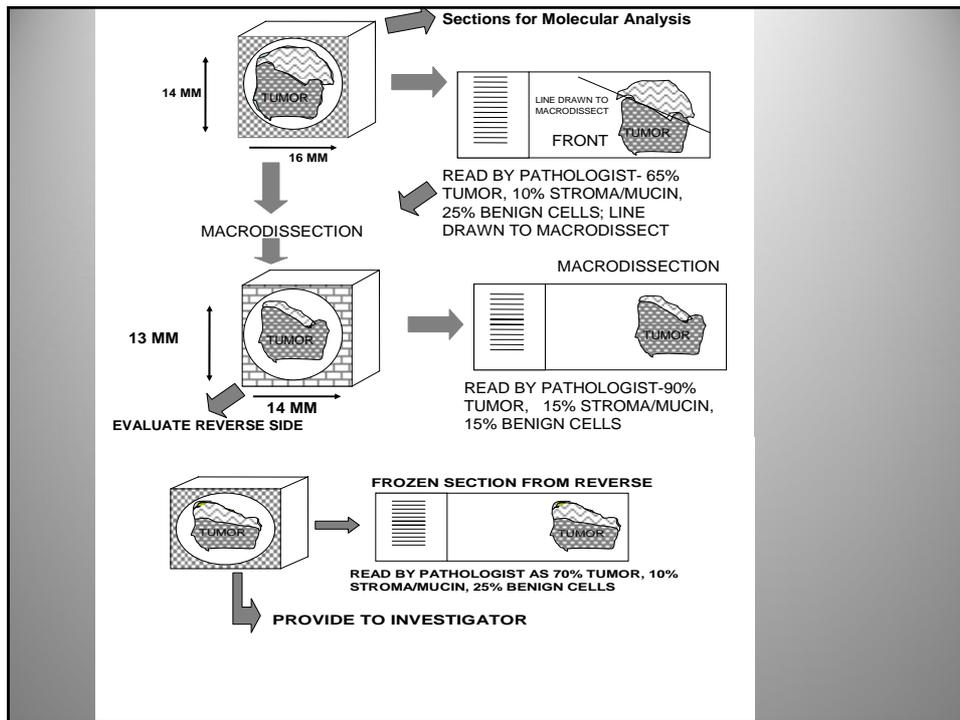
ISSUE 9-Is quality control necessary?

With experience, UAB rejects about 15% of diagnoses of cases. Without experience, up to 40% of cases may be in error.

QUALITY CONTROL

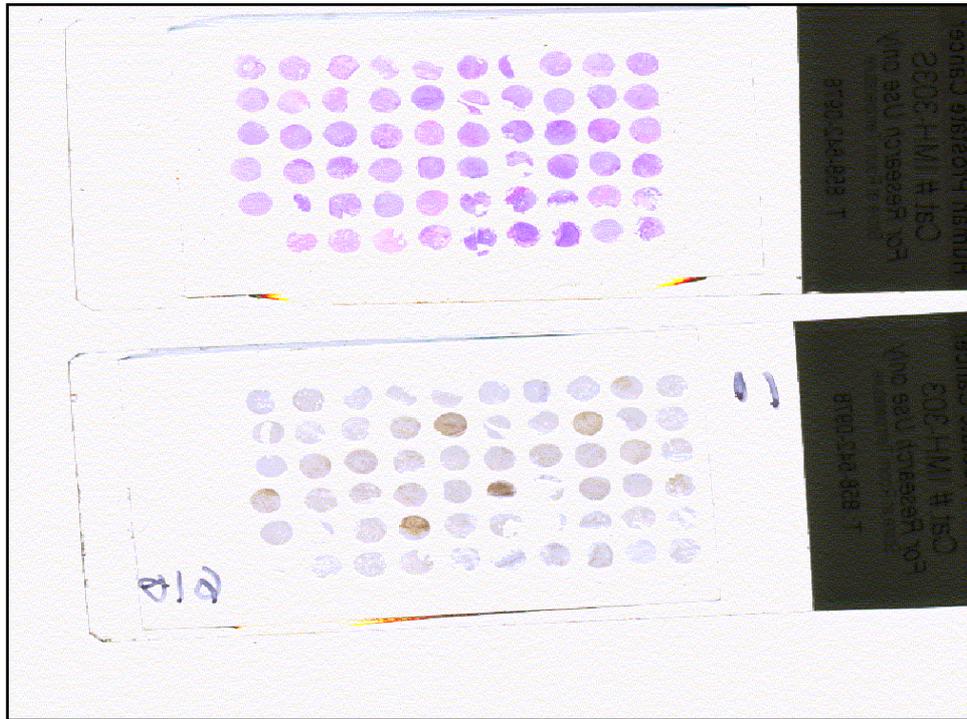
Standard practice





Issue 10-Are tissue arrays better than individual sections in testing molecular markers?

- 1) Staining 3 cores from one block represent a statistical sample of the tumor.**
- 2) cores at same time.**
- 3) Saves tissue, effort, and resources.**
- 4) Must include controls; faster evaluation.**
- 5) More noise; not more accurate**



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