

Large Specimen Submission



We understand that some specimens (large spleens, large masses, amputated limbs) may not fit in our supplied 480 ml formalin containers. For these specimens, there are two ways to submit for histopathology.

1. Submit several representative pieces of the lesion in our supplied formalin containers.

Retain the rest of the mass/specimen in your refrigerator in a sealed container. If small you may cover the specimen with formalin, but if large you can wrap in formalin-soaked paper towels or lap pads to keep from drying out. Do not discard the remaining tissue until you receive a final diagnosis from our pathology team. It is possible (though infrequent) that we may ask for additional tissues from the specimen to advance the diagnosis. Send specimen/s in the supplied Vidium Biopsy Kit and include your Order Card in the box.

2. Submit the entire large specimen in a formalin-approved large container (see below for ordering).

Due to the challenge of predicting shipping costs of large containers, Vidium asks that the hospital handle shipping to the lab. We recommend that you use one of the approved buckets listed below, and request that you *DO NOT FILL THE BUCKET WITH FORMALIN*. Formalin leakage and spills that occur during shipping are a health hazard and can incur significant penalties from transportation companies.

Fortunately, it is not necessary to ship large specimens immersed in formalin. The penetration rate of formalin is so slow (1 mm per hour) that it will not penetrate a large specimen significantly during shipping. Our recommended protocol is:

1. Wrap the tissues in saline-soaked paper towels. Triple bag the specimen and place it in the bucket. There should be minimal free liquid in the container. The bucket should be packed securely in a box for shipping. Affix the Order Card to the outside of the bucket.
2. Ship the specimen priority overnight to:
Vidium Animal Health, c/o Integrated Pathology
9150 W Indian School Rd # 122
Phoenix, AZ 85037

Below are excellent sources and approximate costs for ordering large containers with sealable lids, from 0.6-5 gallons.

[0.6 gallon container, can be used for shipping. \\$9/ea](#)

[1.25 gallon container, can be used for shipping. \\$10/ea](#)

[5 gallon containers, can be used for shipping. \\$19/ea](#)