

# Muscle Biopsy Procedure

Victorian Neuromuscular Laboratory Service (VNLS)  
Alfred Health

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Correct handling of a muscle biopsy is important for interpretation of the specimen.

- Please deliver the specimen before 4pm.
- Please do not freeze the specimen.
- Do not immerse the specimen in any fluid.
- Do not use any diathermy instrument on the muscle specimen.
- Do not infuse the muscle with local anesthetic.

One (1) specimen is required.

1. A **20 x 10 x 10 mm** rectangular piece of muscle is collected from the patient and placed in a dry sterile container (yellow lid).

Place this specimen in an esky with ice cubes and dispatch to the VNLS.

## **Please deliver to:**

Victorian Neuromuscular Laboratory Service  
Alfred Pathology Service  
Ground Floor  
Main Ward Block  
Commercial Rd  
Melbourne  
VIC 3004



ANATOMICAL  
PATHOLOGY  
Victorian Neuromuscular  
Laboratory Service  
(613) 9076 3150  
Prof. C.A. McLean

**DOCUMENT HISTORY**

Version	Issued	Contributors	Description of Changes Made	Authorised by (name)
1.0	23/6/2013	Paul Kennedy	Original document changed to reflect move the Alfred AP service	Catriona McLean
2.0	25/3/2015	Paul Kennedy	Reviewed in preparation for NATA. Minor changes were made (deletion of Veronika Gazdik & addition of Fatema Tajbhai). Also a reduction in the template down the right hand side of the page.	Catriona McLean
3.0	8/3/2016	Paul Kennedy	Addition to the instructions "Note: Kits supplied with separate 25% glutaraldehyde & cacodylate buffer must be <b>MIXED</b> before use." Following enquire from Mitcham Private Hospital.	Catriona McLean
4.0	10/2/2017	Paul Kennedy	After careful consideration muscle biopsy clamps will no longer be used or supplied in muscle biopsy kits. Small formatting changes were also made.	Catriona McLean

Signed:

**Copy Storage Locations (Name of the Manual)**

Copy 1:	Electronically	Copy 2:	With each kit sent out	Copy 3:	
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