SFHHCS12
Retain tissue for clinical use

Overview

This standard relates to tissue retention to maintain tissue quality and integrity to meet clinical requests in the future for individual patients, or for stock at other tissue banks. Tissue retention applies to tissue banking facilities, post mortem tissue, and pathology and may be used in research.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1 work within your level of competence, responsibility and accountability

P2 apply appropriate health and safety measures, infection prevention and control and personal protective equipment to minimise the risks associated with procedures applicable to tissue retention

P3 confirm consent has been obtained for the tissue retention

P4 confirm the unique identifier and ensure this matches with the information supplied for tissue retention and maintain this unique identification throughout the tissue retention process

P5 check tissue identity, type, date of retrieval and document the planned future use for the tissue and its retention period limit

P6 check the appearance and condition of tissue/organ for indictors of disease, damage or other factors affecting tissue quality

P7 avoid cross contamination throughout the preservation and storage process

P8 check whether relevant sterilisation and decontamination of tissue is required

P9 select and apply the appropriate procedure suitable for the type of tissue and intended use and storage

P10 where decontamination methods are applied, confirm results with subsequent microbiological testing and refer to relevant individuals if this is outside your competence or area of responsibility

P11 place tissue in correct preservation medium of suitable composition, sterility and type using sterile conditions and aseptic technique

P12 store tissues in the correct and secure location, in the appropriate environmental condition and in correct rotation for date of retrieval or subsequent disposal

P13 perform monitoring activities for the storage and its environmental conditions at regular intervals consistent with legal, professional and organisational requirements to confirm compliance with internal and external requirements

P14 report any variances or non-compliance of the environment and tissue quality

P15 take the relevant action in the event of adverse incidents including disposal of tissue if necessary

P16 maintain full, accurate and legible records of information and store in appropriate location for future reference and traceability in line with current legislation, guidelines, local policies and protocols

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 your own level of competence, authority and specialist knowledge base related to tissue retention within your work practice

K2 the range of stakeholders involved and their information needs

K3 the range of health and safety measures, infection prevention and control and relevant personal protective equipment , their importance and application within tissue retention procedures

K4 the importance of gaining consent for the tissue retention and its use and the implications of not gaining consent

K5 the importance of inspecting and examining retrieved tissue for indicators of damage, disease, or defects

K6 the time limitations for storage applicable to the range and types of tissue retained within your work practice

K7 the procedures required when tissue retention time limits are reached in accordance with local protocols and legislation

K8 the importance of and the requirements for working in a controlled environments

K9 the importance of maintenance and validation of controlled environments

K10 the requirements for monitoring and security checks and controls required for tissue retention within your work practice

K11 how and when to use the equipment for tissue preservation and storage methodologies

K12 the importance of following relevant protocols and their correct interpretation

K13 the importance of the unique identifier for tissue storage and the methods of ensuring unique identification

K14 why it is important to maintain the link between tissue and documentation and how to deal with mismatched or inadequately identified tissues

K15 the range and types of tissue suitable for storage, their characteristics and approved methodologies within your work practice

K16 how to preserve and store tissue appropriately to prevent deterioration and where appropriate, maintain its viability for future use within your work practice

K17 the range of factors influencing the decision to decontaminate tissue

K18 the range of disinfectant, decontamination and/or sterilisation methods applicable to the types of tissue within your work practice

K19 the possible detrimental effects of procedures and the associated control measures to minimise damage to tissue

K20 the range and type, composition and volume of solutions and their appropriate use for preservation of tissues and storage

K21 the importance and need to monitor the tissue storage conditions

K22 the requirements and relevant action in the event of adverse incidents including disposal of tissue if necessary

K23 the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and in a systematic manner

K24 the relevant types and requirements for documentation associated with tissue retention and the importance of ensuring documentation in accordance with national and local protocols

K25 the current legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols, clinical and information governance within your work area for tissue retention

K26 the policies and guidance that clarify your scope of practice, accountabilities and the working relationship between yourself and others

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB8 Biomedical investigation and intervention

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