Do not submit Nasal Septoplasty tissue to Pathology

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Tissue removed at nasal septoplasty from patients for obstruction is exempt from routine submission to pathology by provincial legislation in Manitoba (The Hospitals Act).

Pathology examination of these tissues is an inefficient use of resources, generating unnecessary cost for the laboratory and providing no clinically relevant information.

*If there are clinical indications for a pathology examination:

    When there is reason to suspect the presence of disease on clinical grounds, specimens should be sent to pathology with a specific written request for a pathology examination and pertinent clinical information clearly documented on the requisition.

Routine nasal septa when removed for obstruction for which there is no clinical reason to request a pathology examination should be disposed of in the operating room. These specimens should not be submitted to the pathology department.

References/Resources:

Exploring the clinical value and implications of routine pathological examination of septoplasty specimens
Pathological Review of Turbinate Tissue from Functional Nasal Surgery
Value-Based Analysis of Septoplasty and Turbinate Specimens

More information:
The Hospitals Act

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