



Vetnostics Newsletter

July 2020

Oral Biopsy, by Dr Louise Sullivan

As with any biopsy, the aim is to obtain a *representative sample* to reach a definitive diagnosis. Important areas for consideration include:

Selection of biopsy site:

- Many oral lesions are heterogeneous. *Superficial samples may be non-diagnostic* (or worse, misleading)
- Use lesion appearance and imaging results to determine the most significant/severely abnormal region. If this is not readily apparent, *collection of multiple samples* is recommended
- Obtaining adjacent "normal" tissue is generally contraindicated with oral masses

Biopsy technique:

- Cytology is often a low yield exercise for oral lesions
- Punch biopsies (4-6 mm diameter, 4-5 mm deep) may be useful for strictly mucosal lesions

- *Deep incisional wedge biopsies are preferred*. If possible avoid penetrating deep or lateral aspects of the lesion to avoid seeding of tumour cells
- Excisional biopsy is most appropriate for small lesions (or if funds preclude further surgery)
- Take care to *avoid crushing* of samples with forceps
- Avoid use of cautery/laser as this leads to artefact which may interfere with interpretation

Submission of samples to the laboratory:

- Correlation of clinical, imaging and pathology results is critical. Always provide an *appropriate history, especially lesion SIZE*, rate of growth and radiographic/imaging features

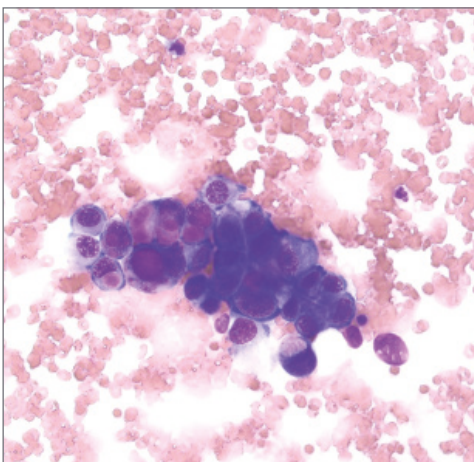
Communication is the key:

- Contact the pathologist if results do not fit with your clinical impressions

What's Your Diagnosis?

(Answer overleaf)

This image is of an FNAB cytologic smear from a urinary bladder mass in a 12 yr old female spayed Border Collie with haematuria.



Giemsa stain. (x40 objective)

Attention Veterinary Cytology Enthusiasts

We know that many veterinarians have a keen interest in cytology or wish to know more about the advanced cytologic techniques available in veterinary cytology such as immunocytochemistry, flow cytometry and PARR (PCR for Antigen Receptor Rearrangements).

Dr Brett Stone has recently presented a 1 hour webinar for a Veterinary Cytology Group that is freely available via their

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/VeterinaryCytology/>

This group is free to join and currently has over 15,000 members from all over the world, including over 100 board certified specialists in different fields of veterinary medicine. If you have an interest in veterinary cytology, consider joining this Facebook group and also watching the Advanced Cytologic Techniques webinar.

Advanced Cytologic Techniques

Tuesday 19th May 2020
8pm CEST

Dr Brett Stone
Specialist Veterinary Clinical Pathologist



Online Courier Bookings

(Available in South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales)

In an effort to increase the ease and efficiency for practices to inform us of specimens they have for submission to QML Pathology Vetnostics, we now offer online courier bookings (routine / non-urgent courier requests only) via the link on our webpage vetqml.com.au

This is currently only available for QML Pathology Vetnostics clients in Northern New South Wales and South East Queensland (including Toowoomba).

During this process, you will need to provide your unique QML Pathology Doctor/submitter code (which is provided on your QML Pathology request forms).

Further instructions on using the online courier booking system are shown here.

STEP 1: Open the courier pickup request page at <http://www.vetqml.com.au/CourierPickup.aspx>
TIP: Saving this address to your favourites or as a shortcut on your desktop will save you having to enter the address each time.

Online Courier Pickup Request

For ALL URGENT collection requests, please phone your nearest QML Laboratory to arrange an urgent collection.

Please note: Online courier booking is not currently available in North Queensland, Central Queensland and Wide Bay. For collection in these areas please call your nearest Regional Hub (listed below) to book your pickup.

To log a courier pickup request online please enter your QML Doctor Code in the field below and follow the prompts.

QML Doctor Code

Brisbane Brisbane Metro 07 3121 4450	Southwest QLD Ipswich 07 3281 8888 Toowoomba 07 4638 9149	Gold Coast & Northern NSW Southport 07 5668 4444 Tugun 07 5598 0822	Sunshine Coast Buderim 07 5441 0200 Gympie 07 5482 1511
North Queensland Cairns 07 4051 8844 Mt Isa 07 4743 4299 Townsville 07 4779 0158	Central Queensland Mackay 07 4951 2999 Rockhampton 07 4921 2155 Emerald 07 4932 0306	Wide Bay Gladstone 07 4872 2877 Bundaberg 07 4162 8411 Hervey Bay/Maryborough 07 4124 8645 Kingaroy 07 4163 6750	

STEP 2: Enter your QML Pathology Dr Code and click 'Q Find'
 Check that the address result matches the location the specimen should be picked up from. If the details are correct, click on the confirmation box. ☐ Tick to proceed. By ticking this box you are confirming that the details listed above are correct

If any of the above details are incorrect please call your nearest QML Pathology Laboratory to arrange a courier pickup. (To update your details please use **Contact us** page to submit an email and we will contact you).

STEP 3: Populate the specimen details fields as required and click 'Submit'

Fields highlighted in red are mandatory.

After clicking submit, a pop up box will appear confirming your request has been received and will show you your job number.

Form Fields:

- Patient:** First name (red border), Last name (red border)
- Tests:**
 - ☐ Biochemistry
 - ☐ Cytology
 - ☐ Endocrinology
 - ☐ Haematology
 - ☐ Histopathology
 - ☐ Microbiology
 - ☐ Serology
 - ☐ Urine
 - Type in not listed tests
- Specimen location:**
 - ☐ Night box
 - ☒ Reception
 - ☐ Other
- Specimen location details:** (Text field)
- Closing time:** (Text field)
-



Visit our Website: vetqml.com.au

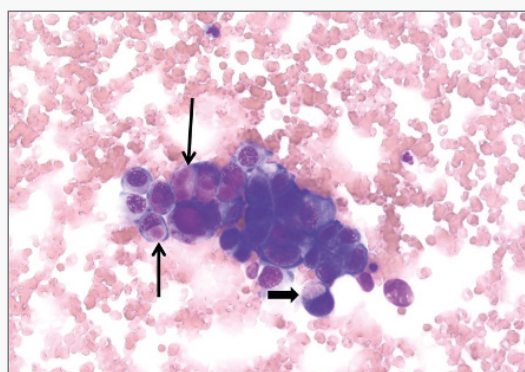
The website is an excellent source of information regarding:

- tests and profiles offered
- contact details
- supply/stores requisition forms
- online results
- test protocols
- courier bookings
- previous newsletters and much more.

Please take some time to browse the website.

We would welcome any feedback regarding additional content you would like to see added.

What's Your Diagnosis? Answer:



1300 VET QML

Please ONLY call your local courier/laboratory number to request sample collections or urgent stores/supplies.

For all other enquiries, please call 1300 VET QML.



Urothelial (Transitional) Cell Carcinoma.

Demonstrating Melamed-Wolinska bodies (thin arrows) and signet ring morphology (thick arrow).