



## **Do Not Submit Routine Tonsils and Adenoids to Pathology From Patients under the Age of 25**

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Tissue removed at tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy from patients under the age of 25 years is exempt from routine submission to pathology by provincial legislation in Manitoba ([The Hospitals Act](#)), and by WRHA policy 110.220.070.

In the vast majority of cases, 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 tonsils, adenoids and foreskins under 25 years of age 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:**

[Histologic analysis of pediatric tonsil and adenoid specimens: is it really necessary?](#)  
[Pathologic evaluation of routine pediatric tonsillectomy specimens: analysis of cost-effectiveness.](#)

**More information:**

[The Hospitals Act](#)

WRHA regional policy #110.220.070: Pathology Specimens (Management of) – Acute Care Setting.

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