

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE SOP5352/3

## Findings During Retrieval Requiring Histopathology Assessment

This SOP replaces  
SOP5352/2

Copy Number

Effective 22/10/19

### **Summary of Significant Changes**

Slight clarification of wording on page 3 flowchart.

### **Purpose**

During the Organ Retrieval Process there are occasions when suspicious lesions are identified that require histopathology assessment. This is not a service provided or commissioned by NHSBT and the destination of samples can vary significantly.

This process provides guidance for all those involved in the histopathology assessment of samples that may affect the safety of an organ, including SNODs, NORS teams, histopathologists, Biomedical Scientists, Hub Operations staff, and Transplant centres.

### **Responsibilities**

**National Organ Retrieval Team (NORS)** – Identify any lesion that may require histopathology assessment, gain advice where required and inform the SNOD as soon as lesion identified. To complete all relevant clinical information on National Request Form ([FRM5867](#))

**Specialist Nurse – Organ Donation (SNOD)** To facilitate the organisation of samples to be sent for histopathology assessment as agreed by the NORS surgeon and complete demographics on the National Histopathology Request Form ([FRM5867](#)). To communicate, report and document any findings requiring additional action that is identified during the organ donation process to Hub Operations. The SNOD is responsible for ensuring the provisional and final histopathology results are ascertained.

**Histopathology Laboratory** – Notify SNOD/Hub Operations of any findings or results following histopathology assessment.

**Hub Operations (HO)** – To communicate with the appropriate RCPoC/National Referral Centre (NRC)/SNBTS/Donor Records Department (DRD) once informed of the finding and document their actions on NTxD.

**Transplant Centres** – To notify Hub Operations if there is any change in agreed process for assessment. To notify Hub Operations immediately if any new suspicious lesions are identified at organ assessment at the Recipient Centre, and timescales of any results to be available.

**Donor Records Department (DRD)** – To forward all histopathology findings to the SNOD as soon as they are received from Hub Operations. NB the DRD is not a 24/7 service.

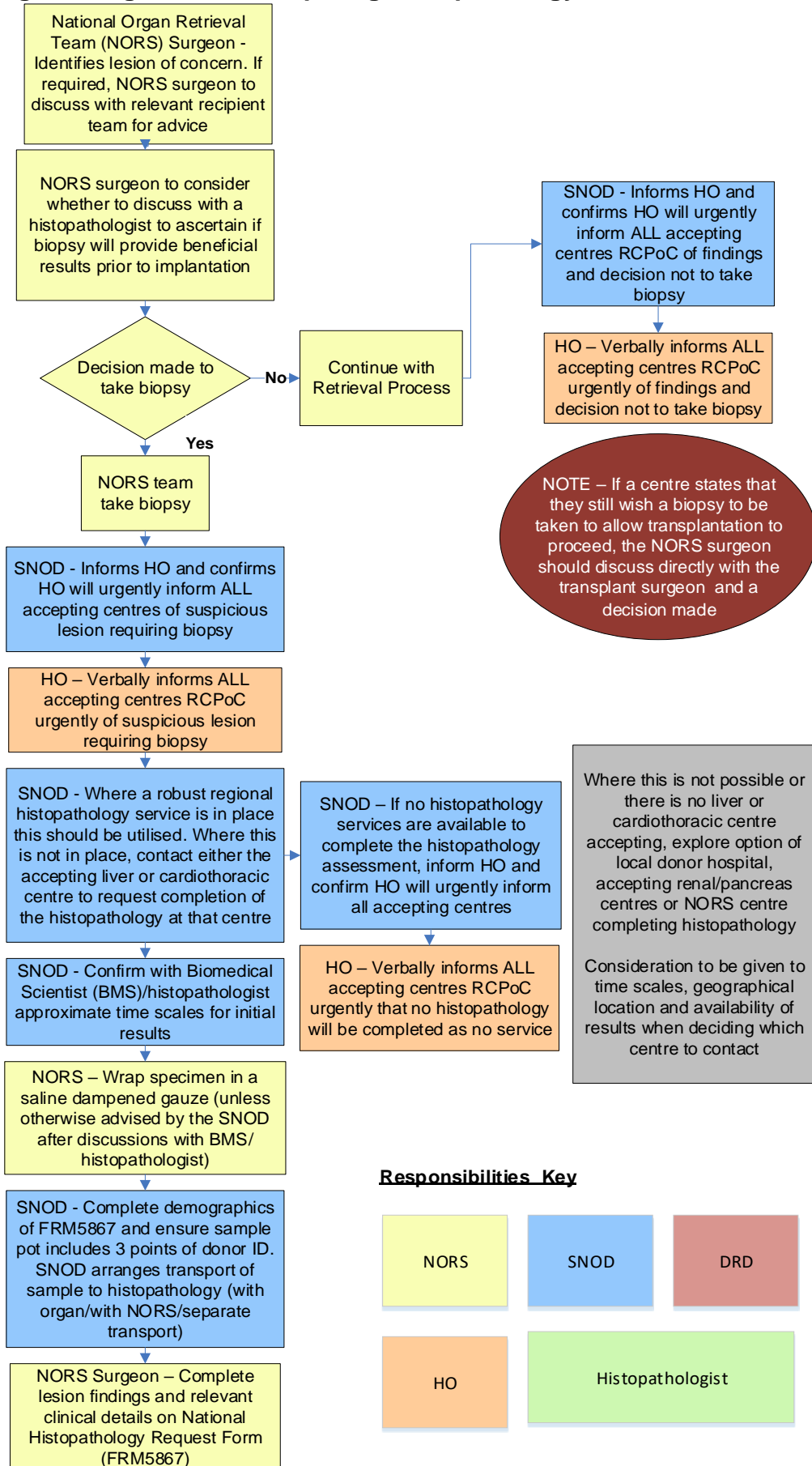
### **Items Required**

[FRM5867](#) – National Histopathology Request Form

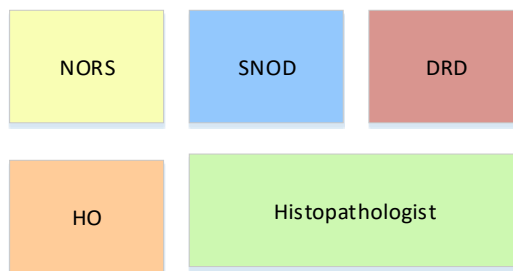
[MPD881](#) – Findings Requiring Additional Action

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE SOP5352/3

## Findings During Retrieval Requiring Histopathology Assessment



### Responsibilities Key



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## Findings During Retrieval Requiring Histopathology Assessment

SNOD – Informs HO of where histopathology will be completed and expected timescales for initial results. Confirm HO will inform ALL centres of this information urgently

HO – Verbally informs ALL accepting centres urgently of timescales of results

Histopathology/Recipient Centre - sample arrives at centre and processed

**IF AT ANY POINT A DECISION IS MADE BY ANYONE INVOLVED, NOT TO PROCESS A SAMPLE OR TIMESCALES ARE ALTERED, THEN ALL ACCEPTING CENTRES MUST BE INFORMED TO ENSURE THE DECISION DOES NOT IMPACT ON THE IMPLANTATION OF ANY ORGANS. THIS IS STILL THE CASE IF IT IS FELT THE LESION IS NOT SUSPICIOUS**

**If a suspicious lesion is noted at the Transplant Centre that was not noted during retrieval and a biopsy taken, Hub Operations (HO) must be immediately contacted to ensure all other centres are informed of findings**

Histopathology - When initial results are available contact the SNOD who can provide details of implanting surgeons/ recipient coordinators if needed to discuss difficult/equivocal case. Provide SNOD with preliminary findings and confirm report/summary will be sent to the HO immediately to enable dissemination to relevant centres

Histopathology - Email a copy/summary of the frozen section report immediately to: [odthub.operations@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:odthub.operations@nhsbt.nhs.uk) and they will disseminate to all relevant centres/individuals. Include pathologists name and contact number in case surgeon needs to discuss case. **Email must include 3 donor identifiers provided on request form**

Whilst the results may be directly communicated to a local recipient coordinator they **MUST** also be sent to ODT Hub directly

SNOD – Contact HO to confirm receipt of histopathology report to ensure unnecessary delays

SNOD – Liaise with Histopathologist if results not received within expected timescales

HO – Send histopathology results to all accepting organ centres/NRC/SNBTS via secure email and DRD. Contact all accepting organ centres urgently via phone to ensure receipt

Histopathology - Email final report to [odthub.operations@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:odthub.operations@nhsbt.nhs.uk)  
Email must include 3 donor identifiers provided on request form

Whilst the results may be directly communicated to a local recipient coordinator they **MUST** also be sent to ODT Hub directly

HO - Send to all accepting centres/NRC/SNBTS via secure email and DRD. Confirm verbally with ALL recipient centres that email is received

**SNOD – Ensure receipt of final results of any histopathology sent at time of retrieval as per MPD881. Final results are required even if provisional results indicate a benign result**

DRD – Forward histopathology result to SNOD for information only – as HO will have forwarded to centres