

ANATOMICAL PATHOLOGY EXPIRED IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY ANTIBODY USE PROCEDURE



Author: Kelly Dakin-Hache

Purpose

- This procedure provides instructions on the use of expired primary antibodies after the manufacturer's expiry date.

Procedure

- Expired primary antibodies can be used in the following carefully monitored situation:

STEP	ACTION
1.1	If the test is verified to be still performing at the expected and desired level of sensitivity based on performance of the control tissue, then the test can be released to the pathologist.
1.2	If the test is not performing at the expected and desired level of sensitivity based on performance of the control tissue but the test is deemed positive in the patient material, the case should be retested. If working well, continue to use the antibody. If still not optimal, dispose of the expired antibody.
1.3	If the test is not performing at the expected and desired level of sensitivity based on the performance of the control tissue and the test is deemed negative in the patient material, then the test could be falsely negative and should not be released to the pathologist. Dispose of the expired antibody.

The technologist is responsible for notifying the IHC Lead Pathologist of all primary expired antibodies. The IHC Lead Pathologist will give direction regarding reordering or using the expired antibody. Expired antibodies will be aliquoted and frozen if the antibody is freezable with information entered in the IHC log on the shared drive.

For more resources, view the sustainable laboratories page at <https://cascadescanada.ca/acti-on-areas/clinical-specialties/>



Resource produced in April 2025.

This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

