

Table 2: Minimum Retention Times for Anatomical Pathology

Please refer to **Table 1 (General Minimum retention times)** for both record and material retention times, unless otherwise specified below

	Record/material	Minimum retention time
2.1	Copy of original report, or ability to reprint the information content of an original report	10 years or 7 years from the age of majority for minors (whichever is the greater)
2.2	Slides: (i) Sections of fixed tissue preserved in mounting medium (ii) Sections of fixed tissue assessed by FISH (fluorescence in situ hybridization) (iii) Sections of unstained, fixed tissue not in permanent mounting medium (unstained spares) (iv) Sections of unfixed tissue not in permanent mounting medium (including immunofluorescence slides)	10 years 6 months 1 month See General 1.7 in Table 1
2.3	Digital images used for diagnostic analysis	see General 1.6 in Table 1

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2.4	Blocks: Tissue embedded in paraffin wax or any other permanent embedding medium, including for ultrastructural study	10 years
2.5	Specimens for intra-operative frozen section diagnosis: (i) The original sections used for diagnosis, preserved on slides in permanent mounting medium (ii) Residual tissue from which the frozen sections were prepared, embedded in paraffin blocks (iii) All other blocks of paraffin-embedded tissue from the same specimen/s from which tissue has been selected for frozen section examination	10 years
2.6	Frozen tissue blocks, including specimens for immunofluorescence studies	1 month at -70°C or lower
2.7	Containers with no residual tissue	1 month from date of issue of report
	Unblocked wet tissue from specimens removed at surgery	1 month from date of issue of report
2.8	Non-coronial autopsy: (i) Registers, report duplicate, blocks and slides, records of tissue and organ disposal	10 years
	(ii) Unblocked tissue from histological samples retained at autopsy, or (iii) Organs retained at autopsy with consent	3 months from date of issue of report unless a limitation is imposed, such as the need to reunite retained specimens with the body before a funeral has been stipulated by next-of-kin