**Cellular pathology audit template**

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| **Date of completion** | (To be inserted when completed) |
| **Name of lead author/ participants** | (To be inserted) |
| **Specialty** | Musculoskeletal pathology |
| **Title** | **An audit of tissue pathways for bone and soft tissue pathology** |
| **Background** | The *Tissue pathways for bone and soft tissue pathology*1provides guidance on achieving best practice in handling samples of bone, joints and other soft tissues sent for pathological assessment.  The following are recommended by the RCPath as key performance indicators (KPIs), see [Key Performance Indicators – Proposals for implementation, July 2013](http://www.rcpath.org/profession/guidelines/kpis-for-laboratory-services.html).2   * Histopathology cases are expected to be reported, confirmed and authorised within 7–10 calendar days of the procedure (except those requiring extended decalcification or molecular tests). * Standard: 80% of cases are expected to be reported within 7 calendar days and 90% within 10 calendar days. |
| **Aim & objectives** | This audit template is a tool to determine whether:   * turnaround times as recommended by the RCPath KPIs (see above) have been met. |
| **Standards & criteria** | **Criteria range:** 80% of bone/soft tissue cases are expected to be reported within 7 calendar days and 90% within 10 calendar days (excluding those cases requiring extended decalcification or molecular tests). |
| **Method** | **Sample selection:** (To be completed by the author)   * All cases of … within the time period from …. to … * Specimen received and date report authorised.   **Data to be collected on proforma (see below).** |
| **Results** | (To be completed by the author)  The results of this audit show the following compliance with the standards.   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **% compliance** | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  |   **Commentary:** |
| **Conclusion** | (To be completed by the author) |
| **Recommend- ations for improvement** | Present the result with recommendations, actions and responsibilities for action and a timescale for implementation. Assign a person(s) responsible to do the work within a timeframe.  **Some suggestions:**   * highlight areas of practice that are different * present findings. |
| **Action plan** | (To be completed by the author – see attached action plan proforma) |
| **Re-audit date** | (To be completed by the author) |
| **References** | 1. Mangham DC, Boros K, Freemont AJ, Mazhari M. *Tissue pathways for bone and soft tissue pathology.* London, UK: The Royal College of Pathologists, 2023. Available at: [www.rcpath.org/profession/guidelines/cancer-datasets-and-tissue-pathways.html](http://www.rcpath.org/profession/guidelines/cancer-datasets-and-tissue-pathways.html) 2. KPI Steering Group. *Key performance indicators – Proposals for implementation.* London, UK: The Royal College of Pathologists, 2013. Available at:   [www.rcpath.org/profession/quality-improvement/kpis-for-laboratory-services.html](http://www.rcpath.org/profession/quality-improvement/kpis-for-laboratory-services.html) |

**Data collection proforma for bone and soft tissue pathology**

**Audit reviewing turnaround times**

Patient name:

Hospital number:

Date of birth:

Consultant:

Case number:

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|  | **1**  Date specimen received | **2**  Date report authorised | **3**  Calendar days between columns 1 and 2 | **4**  Compliant with guideline based on column 3 **Yes/No**  **(Yes: less than or equal to 10; no: more than 10)** |
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| **Audit action plan**  An audit of tissue pathways for bone and soft tissue pathology | | | | | | |
| **Audit recommendation** | **Objective** | **Action** | **Timescale** | **Barriers and constraints** | **Outcome** | **Monitoring** |
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