We provide complete shipping kits that contain: requisition forms and color-coded vials of the fixative solutions you will need for a complete diagnosis. These make it possible to have the correct supplies on hand at all times for renal biopsies. Complete a renal biopsy requisition form for each patient.

Please refrigerate the kits upon arrival. Each vial has an expiration date. The EM Fixative has the shortest refrigerated shelf life. If this solution remains colorless, even though the expiration date has been reached, you may still use it. If it is a faint yellow, it is degrading. Call us for replacement vials of this fixative for your kits, you may discard the degraded fixative vial and replace with a new bottle. The Immunofluorescence (IMF) Media has an approximate one year shelf life. Keep the vial tightly capped. If crystallization occurs, call us for replacement. The 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin (NBF) has the longest shelf life.

The vials have color-coded caps and labels and are listed in the order of importance. If possible, for each requested study, place a specimen into each of the following solutions:
1. **Red cap** – larger core biopsies for light microscopy – 10% NBF
2. **Yellow cap** – Immunofluorescence microscopy – IMF Media
3. **Green cap** – electron microscopy – EM Fixative

Instructions for renal biopsy specimens:

- **When a biopsy is scheduled at your institution**, please call at the number below to alert our laboratory of the pending specimen. The information we need is: institution’s name, patient’s name, physician’s name (specifically the nephrologist’s name), time/date the kit will arrive at HCMC, and other relevant information, such as rapid process requested. **We will order a TForce courier to pick the specimen.**
- **Label each specimen container with patient identification. DO NOT PLACE LABELS ON THE TRANSPORT KIT.**
- **Complete our requisition form with patient demographics, clinical information, requested tests and specimen information. Please make sure you enter the date of service!**
- For billing, please indicate your choice: bill your institution OR the patient.
- A copy of the patient’s insurance information as well as the patient demographics must accompany each specimen, regardless of billing preference.
- **For transport within the Twin Cities metro area after hours**, call TForce, 651-644-8444, and request a pick up at your site for delivery to HCMC Main Lab on P4. Request a stat delivery service.
- For transport outside the metro area, please ship via Federal Express First Overnight Service or similar service. Use the address listed on the shipping kit.
- **Light and immunofluorescent microscopic results are available the same day if we receive the specimens by 12:00 pm.**

**Lab hours:**
Monday through Friday 6:00 am to 5:00 pm CST
Saturday 6:00 am to 12:00 pm CST
Please direct questions to **612-873-3079**

**After hours:** Renal Pathologist pager 612-223-6602

We appreciate your business.