Memorandum – Anatomic Path #21

To: UNC Health Attending Physicians, Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

From: Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD; Medical Director
McLendon Clinical Laboratories
Sara E. Wobker, MD, MPH; Director of Anatomic Pathology

Date: August 19, 2025

Subject: **Muscle Biopsy Submission Procedure**

Effective Date: August 19, 2025

All muscle biopsy specimens will be sent to Duke Health for pathologic evaluation. This will include routine light histochemistry, enzyme-based staining, and, when indicated, electron microscopy.

Please refer to the policy titled *"Muscle Biopsy Testing – Clinicians Request for Muscle Specimens to be Sent to Outside Facility"* for guidance on completing the required Duke Health (DUHS/DUMC Clinical Laboratories) *Wet Laboratory Request Form*.

To maintain specimen integrity, all muscle biopsies must be delivered to Anatomic Pathology by **4:00 PM**. If this deadline cannot be met, the procedure should be rescheduled. Timely delivery is essential to ensure the specimen remains fresh and allows Duke's laboratory sufficient time for proper processing and diagnostic evaluation.
Thank you for your attention to this important change."

Action Needed:
Please ensure all relevant clinical staff are informed of this change and adjust ordering practices accordingly.

Questions?
Contact **Tim Collins** at timothy.collins@unchealth.unc.edu .