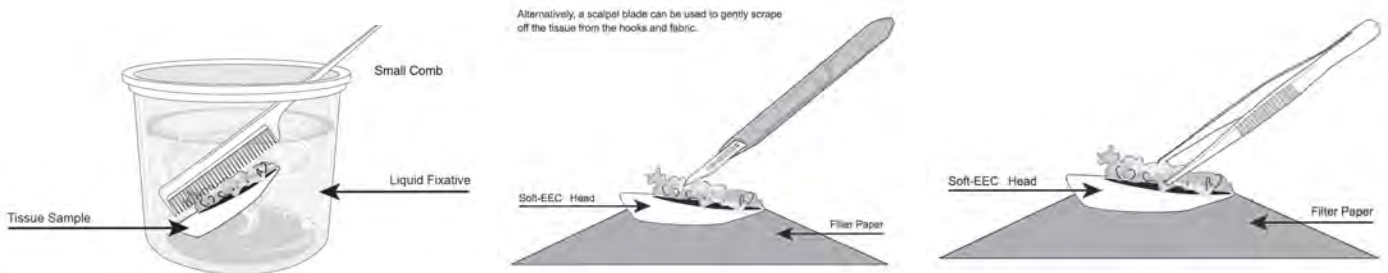


HISTOLOGICS

Laboratory Processing of the Soft ECC® Endocervical Curettage Specimen

1. Be sure to provide a vial of fixative large enough to fit the tip of the Soft ECC® device. **DO NOT USE ALCOHOL** preservative which can adversely affect the fabric pad adhesive. Remember, the Soft ECC® curette provides “true” histological curettage specimens that the lab is accustomed to processing. **This is not a cytological sample.**
2. The device tip should arrive in the lab with some, or the entire specimen inside the hooked fabric. Unlike a twisted bristle brush, the fabric is hooked but aligned in straight rows. The tissue tends to cling to the hooks and the base of the fabric. Some detached tissue will be free floating in the vial already.
3. The tissue should be teased from the device in the following manner:
 - a) Use a small pocket comb to sweep the specimen from the hooked fabric into the vial, onto telfa, or on to filter paper. It is simpler to remove the tissue while still in the vial as long as the comb can fit into the vial (the tissue floats away from the fabric when combed).
 - b) One can alternatively use tweezers or a scalpel blade to scrape the tissue free from the fabric. This is likely to be more time consuming than the combing method.
 - c) Please note: forceful scraping, plucking, or combing of the fabric may dislodge biopsy hooks from the fabric and should be separated and discarded as not to be processed with the specimen.



Optimal method for tissue removal - done directly inside the vial

Tissue removal is optimally done in the vial, but can also be emptied on to a telfa pad

4. Once completely removed from the fabric and drained from the fixative vial: Process the endocervical curettage tissue **EXACTLY** the same way the Laboratory is accustomed to doing. (Filter paper, processing, or choice to do a cell block). There is no additional methodology needed to prepare the specimen histologically.