

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 1, 2011  
**TO:** ALL SWOG MEMBER, CCOP AND AFFILIATE MEDICAL ONCOLOGISTS AND PATHOLOGISTS  
**FROM:** SWOG Operations Office  
**RE:** SWOG Specimen Repository Consolidation and Relocation

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The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information regarding upcoming changes to the SWOG specimen repositories.

Currently active SWOG protocols submit to three separate specimen repositories: the SWOG Leukemia Repository at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center in Seattle, WA; the SWOG Lymphoma/Myeloma Specimen Repository at Arizona Health Science Center in Tucson, AZ; and the SWOG Solid Tumor Specimen Repository at the University of Colorado in Denver, CO.

As part of our ongoing effort to streamline operational efficiency SWOG will be consolidating the three existing repositories into one central SWOG repository which will be located at Nationwide Children's Hospital Biopathology Center in Columbus, OH.

Effective November 1, 2011 all repository specimen submissions for hematologic malignancies (leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma) will be routed to the new repository at Nationwide Children's Hospital Biopathology Center. Effective December 1, 2011 all repository specimen submissions for solid tumor disease sites will be routed to the new repository at Nationwide Children's Hospital Biopathology Center.

Due to time constraints and regulatory requirements, individual protocol revisions to reflect these changes may not be distributed on or before the effective dates, but will be distributed as they are available. During this transition period and starting on the effective dates for each disease site, sites are instructed to follow specimen submission instructions as outlined on the appropriate SWOG Specimen Submission webpage as follows:

Leukemia: <http://swog.org/members/clinicaltrials/specimens/leuspecimens.asp>  
Lymphoma: <http://swog.org/members/clinicaltrials/specimens/lymspecimens.asp>  
Myeloma: <http://swog.org/members/clinicaltrials/specimens/myelspecimens.asp>  
Solid Tumors: <http://swog.org/members/clinicaltrials/specimens/stspecimens.asp>

Additionally, specimens previously submitted to the lymphoma repository in Arizona for pathology review will be submitted to the repository at Nationwide Children's Hospital Biopathology Center effective November 1, 2011. Sites are instructed to follow the pathology specimen submission instructions outlined on the Lymphoma Pathology Submission webpage at <https://swog.org/members/clinicaltrials/specimens/lymphpath.asp>. Individual protocol revisions for the updated pathology submission instructions will also be distributed as they are available.

Any specimens that have been *logged* into the SWOG Spec Trak system for shipment to one of the existing repositories, but that have not yet been *shipped* in the tracking system as of 11/1 for leukemia, myeloma and lymphoma (including lymphoma pathology) or as of 12/1 for solid tumor sites, will automatically have the destination laboratory changed in the SWOG Specimen Tracking System to the Nationwide Children's Hospital Biopathology Center.

Note that this transition specifically affects only specimens submitted to the repository for banking purposes; specimens submitted for protocol specific translational medicine studies or for other purposes outlined in the treatment protocol will continue to be submitted as outlined in the protocol.

Questions regarding this transition should be directed to the SWOG Operations Office at 210/614-8808.