

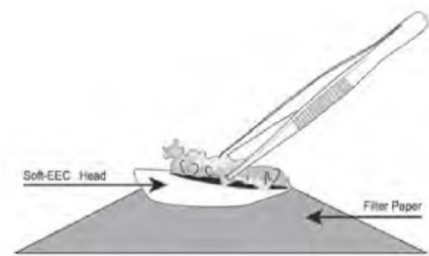
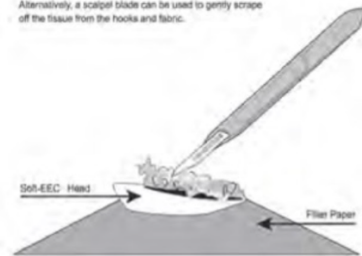


## Standard Laboratory Processing of the Soft ECC® Endocervical Curettage Specimen

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 tweezers or blunt side of scalpel blade to sweep the specimen from the hooked fabric into the vial, onto telfa, or on to filter paper. It is more efficient to remove the tissue while still in the vial as long as the tweezer or blade tip can fit into the vial (the tissue floats away from the fabric when scraped off).
  - b) Please note: forceful scraping or plucking of the fabric may dislodge biopsy hooks from the fabric and should be separated and discarded as not to be processed with the specimen.



Alternatively, a scalpel blade can be used to gently scrape off the tissue from the hooks and fabric.



**Tissue Removal from the hook-array is optimally performed with gloved hands directly in the vial, with the dislodged tissue in the vial poured through a teabag or telfa tissue trap. It can alternatively be emptied onto a telfa pad for processing.**

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.