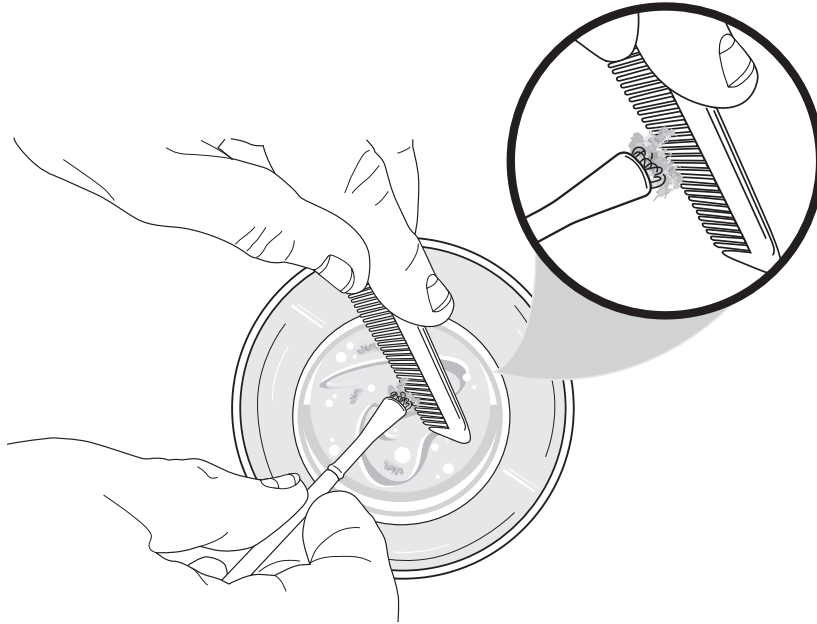


HISTOLOGICS

Laboratory Processing of the SoftBiopsy® Gynecological Biopsy Specimen

1. Be sure to provide a vial of fixative large enough to fit the tip of the SoftBiopsy® device. **Do not use alcohol preservative** which can adversely affect the fabric pad adhesive. Remember, the SoftBiopsy® biopsy device provides “true” histological biopsy 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.
4. Once completely removed from the fabric and drained from the fixative vial: **process the epithelial biopsy tissue EXACTLY the same way the laboratory is accustomed to doing. (Filter paper, processing, or choose to do a cell block). This specimen should be considered similar to small punch biopsy specimens (multiple) or frictional biopsies similar to curettings from the transformation zone which include squamous epithelium. There is no added methodology needed to prepare the specimen histologically.**