



PATIENT INFORMATION

WHAT IS AN ORAL PATHOLOGIST AND HOW DO THEY IMPACT MY HEALTH?

An **oral pathologist** is a specialist in dentistry and pathology specifically trained to interpret tissue samples (biopsies) of the mouth, jaws and skin of the face. Since oral pathologists are first trained as dentists, they are experts on the specific diseases and conditions that affect the oral region and work closely with dentists and other specialists.

The role of the oral pathologist is critical in accurately diagnosing your oral condition, although this is a doctor that you will probably never actually meet. It is important that your doctor sends your tissue sample to an experienced oral pathologist, rather than a general pathology lab. Since the mouth and jaws are so unique, general pathology labs may provide a less accurate diagnosis or may need to consult an oral pathologist for help, raising the total cost of the pathology services for the patient. While a general pathologist may see a few hundred cases from the oral region per year in practice, **Dr. Belknap, Dr. Montague and Dr. DeVilliers have seen a combined total of over 100,000 oral pathology cases to date.**

Drs. Belknap, Montague and DeVilliers at Dynamic Pathology are board-certified oral pathologists, experts in diagnosing oral diseases and disorders.

WHY DID MY DOCTOR CHOOSE DYNAMIC PATHOLOGY?

Dynamic Pathology is one of the few laboratories in the United States dedicated solely to the practice of oral pathology. We provide the highest quality oral pathology diagnoses by combining all of the relevant patient information (history, clinical details, findings on x-rays) with the microscopic appearance of the tissue. We communicate with your doctor to answer any questions about the diagnosis and help guide treatment decisions. Although Dynamic Pathology is **out-of-network** with all health insurance companies, we offer flexible payment plans and will file courtesy claims with your insurance (except for Medicare, as we have opted-out). The lab fee for a typical biopsy is \$200-300. If additional processing or diagnostic stains are required, there are additional fees. The specialized testing for autoimmune disease (direct immunofluorescence, DIF) may cost up to \$1100. Please review your copy of our billing policy on the back of this form and contact us with any questions at 941-720-9747. For additional information, please visit us online at www.dynamicpathology.com.



FOR ALL ACCOUNT & BILLING QUESTIONS

Dynamic Pathology • Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
Tel: 813-569-0192 or 941-720-9747
Fax: 866-710-4133 • Email: biopsy@dynamicpathology.com

FOR THE PATIENT: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ORAL PATHOLOGY LABORATORY BILLING

Your doctor has chosen to send your biopsy specimen to Dynamic Pathology for expert microscopic examination, diagnosis and reporting by a board certified oral pathologist. **The fee for our laboratory service is not included in your doctor's charge for the biopsy and there will be a separate statement from our billing agency for this service.** Please carefully read the information below.

BILLING POLICY: WHY YOU WILL RECEIVE A STATEMENT FROM DYNAMIC PATHOLOGY

- Effective April 1, 2023, we are **OUT-OF-NETWORK with all insurance companies.**
- As a courtesy, we will bill your dental or medical insurance for this lab procedure on your behalf. If you have out-of-network benefits or have met your deductible, our lab services MAY be covered by your insurance. Please check with your insurance provider if you are uncertain of coverage provisions.
- If you have Medicare or Medicare Advantage insurance, please review, initial, and sign our Medicare opt-out contract. We will NOT file claims with Medicare and you will be responsible for payment in full. If you have a separate dental insurance plan, we will file a courtesy claim with your dental insurance provider.
- **The estimated cost of a routine biopsy is usually \$200-300.** If additional tissue processing or tests are required for diagnosis, there are additional fees, but this is only necessary in a small percentage of cases.
- For timely billing, please provide your current contact information (and copy of driver's license or ID card) and insurance information (and copy of insurance card), if applicable. If no insurance information is provided, we will not file a claim and we will send the billing statement directly to you.
- Any disputes with your insurance company involving participating providers, coverage, eligibility or unpaid balances are your responsibility to resolve. Co-insurance, co-payment or deductibles are determined by your insurance plan and are your responsibility.
- All charges are payable once you receive a statement for our services. Please contact us with questions.
- Unless prior arrangements have been made, any balance that has not been paid within 60 days from the date of the statement will be transferred to our professional collection agency, and you may be charged an additional 25% of your outstanding balance, as well as any related legal costs or fees.

Consent for Treatment: I consent to having my biopsy specimen sent to Dynamic Pathology (an out-of-network lab) and the laboratory tests required to process and diagnose my specimen.

Assignment of Benefits: I hereby assign medical benefits to which I am entitled to Dynamic Pathology. I hereby authorize my insurance carrier and any other health/medical plan to issue payment checks to this lab for all pathology services I receive.

Financial Responsibility: I understand that I will be fully responsible to pay for the medical services that I receive from Dynamic Pathology if: (1) my insurance does not cover out-of-network services; (2) I have not met my annual deductible; (3) I have Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan; (4) I do not have insurance.

I understand that if I have insurance, Dynamic Pathology will file laboratory services to my insurance carrier(s) on my behalf. I attest that the insurance information that I provide is correct and accurate.

Authorization to Release Information: I hereby authorize Dynamic Pathology to: (1) release information necessary to insurance carriers regarding medical services that I receive; (2) share protected health information with other licensed healthcare providers as needed for diagnostic and treatment purposes within HIPAA regulations.

Please contact us with any questions regarding billing at 941-720-9747.