



# Handling Patient Requests for Return of Explanted Medical Devices, Human Tissue or Specimens

Position statements from the College provide background information and express or clarify  
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Facility policy and procedures: Non-hospital facilities are required to have policy and procedures in place for the handling of patient requests for the return of explanted medical devices, human tissue and specimens.

Culturally, religious, and spiritually appropriate care (e.g. Indigenous cultural safety).

Alternatives: Options other than releasing the explanted medical device, human tissue or specimen to the patient should be considered and may be preferred (i.e. viewing, providing a photograph).

Hazards and risks of release (i.e. infection prevention and control, handling and disposal of biomedical waste) such as

- human tissue or specimens required for pathology,
- human tissue or specimens that contain cytotoxic, pharmaceutical, chemical or radioactive waste,

