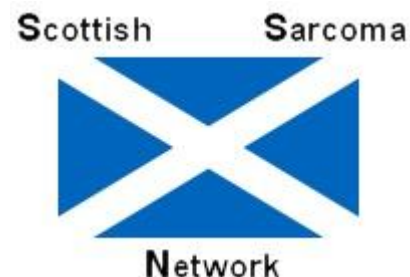


**North, South East and West of Scotland
Cancer Networks**

**Sarcoma
National Managed Clinical Network**



Sarcoma

Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour Pathology

National Guideline

Prepared by	Dr Shaun Walsh
Approved by	SSN, NMSN and SPAN
Issue date	May 2019
Review date	April 2022
Version	2.0 (replaces v1.0 September 2015)

Background

The histological and molecular pathological diagnosis of Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumours (GISTs) within Scotland follows the Royal College of Pathologists guidelines.

All GISTs will be first reported or reviewed by upper or lower gastrointestinal pathologists according to site of tumour. In rare instances GISTs will be dealt with through the Paediatric Pathology services and as such will be reported by specialist paediatric pathologists who participate in the appropriate Paediatric pathology external quality assessment (EQA).

Specimen reception

Ideally all large GIST resection specimens, irrespective of anatomic site, should be received fresh (unfixed) in the laboratory. However, in practice many specimens will be received fixed or partly fixed. In many cases the GIST will be discovered following surgery for other gastrointestinal malignancy or intra-abdominal mass. This protocol should be adhered to as closely as possible in such specimens.

Reporting

Histopathological reporting of GISTs is based on assessment of haematoxylin and eosin stained tissue sections with additional information being provided by appropriate immunohistochemical staining available locally or regionally.

All high risk, intermediate risk and small bowel GISTs are required to have mutation analysis at the time of diagnosis. Mutation analysis studies are available from the Dundee centre (Dr Shaun Walsh, Dept of Pathology, Ninewells Hospital) and Edinburgh centre (Dr Anca Oniscu, Department of Pathology, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh).

Pathology reports include where appropriate description and comment on pathological features that are related to management and clinical outcome including histological type, mitotic rate, size and completeness of resection and follow the [Royal College of Pathologists' dataset for GISTs](#).

To ensure consistency of reporting, terminology and grading, development and maintenance of expertise, close working relationships are maintained between the pathologists through the Scottish Pathology Network and the Scottish Sarcoma Network (SSN).