To improve work efficiency and patient safety by introducing a simple automation step during microtomy procedure in histopathology lab.

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Aim(s)

To improve the microtomy procedure in histopathology lab using Leica Cognitive Cxi label printer

Methodology

The usual microtomy procedure is that the staff has to handwrite the slide with case number after sectioning. The slide will then proceed for staining and an extra step is needed to paste the patient label on the slide.

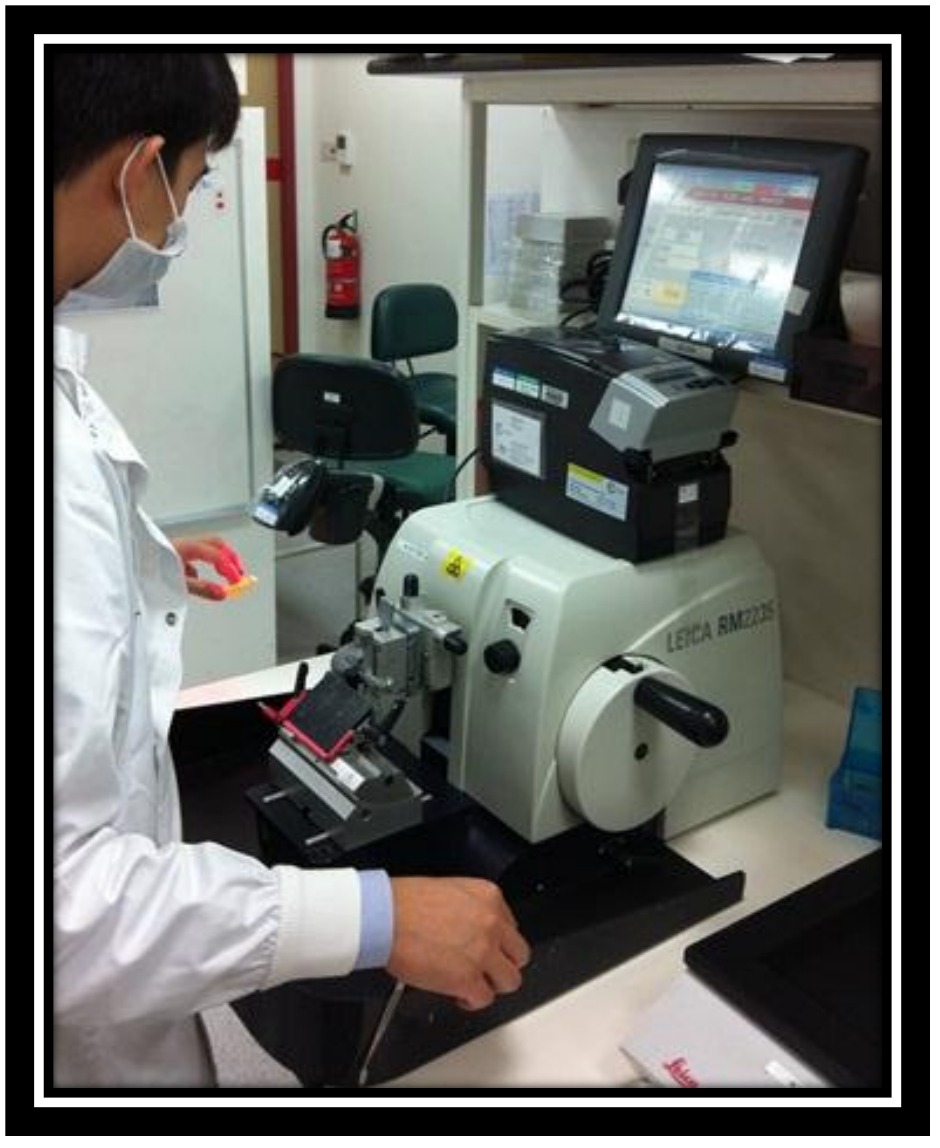
With the improved method, the cassette was printed with case number and a barcode which contains information of patient name and case number. During microtomy, by using the Leica Cognitive Cxi label printer, the barcode on the cassette is scanned via a barcode reader and a label containing patient name and case number will be generated automatically. The label will be pasted on the slide with tissue section and proceed for H & E staining. At the end of the staining, the slide can be submitted to pathologists directly.

Result

The new procedure has improved the followings:
1. Improve overall submission time as the time needed to paste label at the end of staining is omitted.
2. Patient label is generated one at a time per block thus it completely has no risk of error in mislabelling.
3. Intangilble benefit for the staff is that they no longer need to struggle in reading patient number with untidy handwriting

Conclusion

Microtomy is the core work procedure in histopathology. This semi-auto label generating printer with barcode scanning capability has high impact in improving daily routine sectioning which resulted in both tangible and intangible benefit to patient and staff.



"Barcode" "Scan" "Print"

"Ready for submission immediately after staining"