

The frozen section procedure is a pathological laboratory procedure to perform rapid microscopic analysis of a specimen. It is used most often in cancer surgery. This involves the examination of tissue taken intra-operatively to give Dr Farrell a preliminary diagnosis whilst the surgery is still in progress. This may tell Dr Farrell, for example, that a suspicious mass is non-cancerous, allowing for more conservative surgery, or that an ovarian mass contains cancer, requiring a specific cancer staging based operation.

The final procedure would have been agreed upon prior to surgery, depending on the result of the frozen section, between you and Dr Farrell. Dr Farrell usually sends the sample to a pathologist on-site at the SEALS laboratory that has expertise in analysing gynaecological specimens.