

**Quick Reference Guide - Optimal Oncology/Pathology Specimen Requirements\* Client Services Department: (800) 447-5816**

Specimen Type	IHC	Flow DNA	Flow Immunophenotyping **	Bone Marrow Morphology	PCR	Cytogenetics/ FISH	Storage & Transportation
Peripheral Blood		●Green-top 20 ml <sup>^</sup>	●Green-top 20 ml <sup>^</sup> Lavender-top - back-up	● Green-top 5-10 ml <sup>^</sup> with 2 smears	◆Yellow-top preferred 10 - 20 ml <sup>1</sup> or yellow-top	●Green-top 5-10 ml <sup>^</sup> 5-10 ml <sup>^</sup>	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Fixed Bone Marrow Biopsy (Formalin) Core and/or Clot	1-2 cm (length) <sup>3</sup>	Paraffin-embedded 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm		1-2 cm 10x formalin vol. to spec. vol. with fresh smear	1-2 cm	1-2 cm (FISH only)	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Fresh Bone Marrow Core Biopsy***			■ RPMI <sup>1</sup> 1-2 cm	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> 1-2 cm		■ RPMI <sup>1</sup> 1 cm	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Bone Marrow Aspirate****		●Green-top 2-3 ml <sup>^</sup>	●Green-top 2-3 ml <sup>^</sup>	●Green-top 2-3 ml with 5-10 smears/slide <sup>^</sup>	◆Yellow-top preferred 2-3 ml or yellow-top	● Green-top 2-3 ml <sup>^</sup>	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Fine Needle Aspirate (FNA)		■RPMI <sup>1</sup> 2 ml	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> 2 ml		■RPMI <sup>1</sup> 2 ml or FFDE	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> 2 ml	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Fresh Tissue Biopsy	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> At least two pieces (8-10 preferred) 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm <sup>3</sup>	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> At least two pieces (8-10 preferred) 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> At least 2 pieces (8-10 preferred) 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm		■RPMI <sup>1</sup> Two pieces minimum 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm	■RPMI <sup>1</sup> Two pieces 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Frozen Tissue Biopsy		Snap frozen 0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5cm			Snap frozen, minimum 0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5cm		-20° C ship on min. 10 lbs dry ice
Fixed Paraffin Block with Corresponding H&E	0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm	0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm			Minimum 0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm	0.2cmx0.2cmx0.2cm (FISH only-on clot not core)	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF)			❖Sterile glass tube 2 ml			■Sterile plastic tube 2 ml	Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Body Fluids	Evacuated Bottle or Collection Pouch <sup>3</sup> 50-200 ml fluid in 1:1 dilution RPMI-Submit specimen within 24 hours to optimize viability						Room temperature, transport w/cold pack <sup>2</sup>
Urine						UroVysion; 33ml urine in 17ml Cabowax, etc.	

●Green-top = Sodium heparin    ◆Lavender-top = EDTA    ◆Yellow-top =ACD-A    ❖Sterile glass tube    ■ RPMI = Pink color culture media<sup>1</sup>    ■Sterile plastic tube

**Diagnostic Consultation: Since a fixed tissue block is necessary, please provide a smear or H&E of the fixed specimen for full IHC analysis.**

Specimen Type	Transport Kit	Transport Method
Frozen Tissue Biopsy	Genzyme Shipper	Send specimen via Priority overnight. Ship on a minimum of 10 lbs dry ice. Please call our Client Services Department with Airbill # before shipping.
All Others	Genzyme Shipper	Send specimen via Priority overnight. Please call our Client Services Department with Airbill # before shipping all specimens, except paraffin blocks.

\* Genzyme often uses a combination of technologies to provide a comprehensive analysis for the referring physician. Additional material may be requested if necessary.

\*\* Flow - After the bone marrow/peripheral blood is drawn, please prepare a smear and provide CBC results along with the samples.

\*\*\* See Directory of Tests & Services for more detailed directions on preparation of fresh smears for bone marrow morphology.

\*\*\*\* Provide in tightly capped container with no exposure to formalin fumes. See Directory of Tests & Services for more detailed directions on bone marrow aspirate smears and/or stained slides.

<sup>^</sup> Sodium heparin is preferred, as lithium heparin is toxic to cells.

- Caution:** Do not use RPMI when it turns cloudy, yellow or is at or beyond the expiration date; use only pink/orange color RPMI.
- Be sure cold pack is not in direct contact with specimen during transport.
- IHC may be performed after tissue/cells have been fixed and processed into a paraffin block.



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