

Specimen Identification and Labeling Requirements

Labeling Requirements:

Label all primary specimen containers with at least two patient-specific identifiers.

- Acceptable identifiers include but are not limited to: patient name, date of birth, Lab number, requisition number, accession number, or unique random number.
- Label all specimens in the presence of the patient.
- Positive identification is the responsibility of the person collecting the sample.

Specimen Identification:

Submit a completed order or requisition form with all specimens. Completed orders or requisition forms should contain the following information:

- Full name of patient
- Secondary unique identifier
- Date of Birth
- Sex of Patient
- Referring physician
- Facility name and address
- Date and time of specimen collection
- Specimen type
- Referring diagnoses
- Appropriate related patient history
- Test requested

Specimen Collection and Storage Requirements for Chromosome Analysis, FISH, ICP, and Microarray

Amniotic Fluid:

- Volume: 10 – 20 ml; discard the first ml of fluid or use for other testing
- Container: Sterile 15 mL centrifuge tube or container
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 to 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)

Bone Core:

- Volume: NA
- Container: Sodium Heparin vacutainer or a tube containing transport media
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent formation of clots
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 to 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F).

Bone Marrow:

- **Adults**
 - Volume: 2 – 5 ml of bone marrow; from the first or at least the second tap
 - Container: Sodium Heparin vacutainer
 - Do Not Use Lithium Heparin
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 time to prevent clots
 - Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 to 22°C (68 - 72°F)
 - Do Not Freeze Specimen
- **Children**
 - Volume: 1 – 5 ml of bone marrow; from the first or at least the second tap
 - Container: Sodium Heparin vacutainer
 - Do Not Use Lithium Heparin;
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
 - Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 - 22°C (68 – 72 °F)
 - Do Not Freeze Specimen

Chorionic Villi:

- Volume: 10-20 mg of chorionic villi
- Container: 15 ml sterile centrifuge tube containing sterile transport media
 - Sterile transport media provided by GAI upon request, sterile media such as RPMI, or sterile saline solution may be used
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 -22°C (38 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
- With advanced notice, a cytogenetic technologist may be provided to verify that an adequate sample has been obtained for locations in the Nashville area.

Fine Needle Aspirate:

- Volume: Entire aspirate
- Container: 15 ml sterile centrifuge tube containing sterile transport media
 - Sterile transport media provided upon request, sterile media such as RPMI, or sterile saline solution may be used
 - Do Not Use Formalin
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 -22°C (38 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Lymph Node:

- Volume: Entire lymph node
- Container: Sterile container containing sterile transport media
 - Sterile transport media, provided by GAI upon request, sterile media such as RPMI, or sterile saline solution may be used; Do Not Use Formalin
- Rinse lymph nodes collected in non-sterile conditions with sterile balanced salts solution, Ringer's lactate, or sterile saline.
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 -22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Masses / Tumors:

- Volume: Entire mass / tumor
- Container: Sterile specimen cup containing sterile transport media
 - Sterile transport media provided by GAI upon request, sterile media such as RPMI, or balanced salt solution may be used
 - Do Not Use Formalin
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 -22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Peritoneal Fluid:

- Volume: 15 -50 ml peritoneal fluid
- Container: 50 ml sterile centrifuge tube or specimen cup
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 -22°C (68 -72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
Do Not Freeze

Peripheral Blood:

- **Children – Adults (8 days and up)**
 - Volume: 2 – 5 ml peripheral blood
 - Container: Sodium Heparin vacutainer; Do Not Use Lithium
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 time to prevent clots
 - Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 – 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze
- **Newborns (0 – 7 days)**
 - Volume: 1 – 2 ml peripheral blood
 - Container: Sodium Heparin vacutainer
 - Do Not Use Lithium; Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
 - Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 – 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 – 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze
- **PUBS (Percutaneous Umbilical Blood Specimen/Cord Blood)**
 - Volume: 1 – 2 ml PUBS or cord blood
 - Container: Sodium Heparin vacutainer
 - Do Not Use Lithium
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
 - Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 - 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 – 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Pleural Fluid:

- Volume: 15 -50 ml pleural fluid
- Container: Sterile centrifuge tube or specimen cup

- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 - 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
Do Not Freeze

Products of Conception:

- Volume: ≥100 mg of appropriate tissue; If volume is inadequate, all tests requested may not be performed.
 - Specimen collected should include, by order of preference, one or more of the following: villi, placenta or placental membrane, or recognizable fetal parts.
 - Stillborn: Placenta containing chorionic villi is the preferred tissue; include other tissue as well
Stillborn or infant autopsy: Preferred tissues in descending order are: lung, kidney, thymus, skin.
- Rinse tissue collected in non-sterile conditions with sterile balanced salt solution, Ringer's lactate, or sterile saline.
- Container: Sterile container containing sterile transport media
 - Sterile transport media, provided by GAI upon request, sterile media such as RPMI, or sterile saline solution may be used
 - Carefully tighten the lid of container to prevent leakage
 - Do Not Use Formalin
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 - 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Slides (Paraffin Embedded Tissue):

- Volume: Submit 2 slides per probe requested
 - Cut specimen 3 – 4 μ thick.
 - Use positively charged slides.
- Submit H & E slides marked with the area of interest.
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 – 22°C (68 - 72°F)

Tissue, Solid (Constitutional):

- Volume: 3mm³ tissue biopsy
- Container: Sterile specimen cup containing sterile transport media
 - Sterile transport media provided by GAI upon request, sterile media such as RPMI, or balanced salt solution may be used
 - Do Not Use Formalin
- Storage Conditions: Room temperature, 20 - 22°C (68 - 72°F) or refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Urine:

- Volume: ≥33 ml of urine
- Container: Sterile container containing Carbowax or PreserCyt
 - Mix the urine at a 2:1 ration with either Carbowax or PreserCyt
 - Carefully tighten the lid or the container to prevent leakage
- Storage Conditions: Refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Specimen Collection Requirements for Molecular Testing**DNA Based Testing****(mutations, JAK2, B Cell & T Cell Clonality, NGS, Thrombophilia)*****Bone Marrow:***

- Volume: 1.5 – 5ml bone marrow; from the first or at least second tap
- Container: EDTA (purple top) vacutainer
 - Sodium Heparin tube can be used but is not preferred
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
- Storage Conditions: Refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Specimen must be received in the lab within 72 hours of draw

Peripheral Blood:

- Volume: 2 – 5 ml peripheral blood
- Container: EDTA (purple top) vacutainer
 - Sodium Heparin tube can be used but is not preferred
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
- Storage Conditions: Refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Specimen must be received in the lab within 72 hours of draw

Specimen Collection Requirements for Molecular Testing**RNA Based Testing****(BCR/ABL1 p210 & BCR/ABL 1 p190)*****Bone Marrow:***

- Volume: 1.5 – 5ml bone marrow; from the first or at least second tap
- Container: EDTA (purple top) vacutainer
 - Sodium Heparin tube can be used but is not preferred
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
- Storage Conditions: Refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze
- Specimen must be received in the lab within 72 hours of draw

Pellets (Fixed Bone Marrow or Peripheral Blood)

- Volume: Cell pellet fixed in Methanol: Acetic Acid (3:1); pellet must be visible
 - Pellet must not be older than 1 week

- Container: Sterile centrifuge tube
- Storage Conditions: Refrigerated temperature, 2 -8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze

Peripheral Blood

- Volume: 2 – 5 ml peripheral blood
 - Container: EDTA (purple top) vacutainer
 - Sodium Heparin tube can be used but is not preferred
 - Invert tube 4 – 8 times to prevent clots
 - Storage Conditions: Refrigerated temperature, 2 - 8°C (35.6 – 46.4°F)
 - Do Not Freeze
- Specimen must be received in the lab within 72 hours of draw

Specimen Shipping

- Call Farabi at 750 856 4547 or 773 022 3272 for additional information.
- Enclose completed requisition form with each specimen
- Enclose a refrigerated cold pack in the shipping box for transportation for specimens requesting chromosome analysis, FISH, ICP, or microarray and avoid extreme temperatures to ensure specimen integrity.
- Enclose a frozen cool pack in the shipping box for transportation for specimens requesting PCR testing and avoid temperature extremes to ensure specimen integrity.
- Store samples as stated above for each specific specimen type until pickup by courier.

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