



CYTOGENETICS SPECIMEN HANDLING



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PRODUCTS OF CONCEPTION

- When possible collect the abortus tissue in a sterile container.
- When collected in a non-sterile condition, rinse the specimen with sterile balanced salt solution, Ringer's lactate, or sterile injectable saline.
- Transfer specimen to a sterile tube containing transport medium (provided by the laboratory), or into any one of the solutions mentioned above.
- The specimen should include, by order of preference, one or more of the following: villi, placenta or placental membrane, recognizable fetal parts.
- Products of conception obtained from D&C can be directly transferred to the transport medium or to any one of the solutions mentioned above.

Autopsy: Stillborn or infant

- Preferred tissues in descending order are: Lung, kidney, thymus, skin.
- Sterile procedures should be followed as much as possible. For skin sample, clean area with alcohol.

For Stillborns:

- Placenta containing chorionic villi is the preferred tissue; include other tissues also. (see above)
- **DO NOT FREEZE. DO NOT ADD FORMALIN.**

Final results can be expected in 7-14 days.

BLOOD

- Clean the area of the needle insertion with alcohol.
- Use preservative free **SODIUM** heparin as an anti-coagulant.
- List any dysmorphic features and include a possible diagnosis
- Specify on requisition: chromosome analysis, FISH, high resolution study, microarray.
- Note on requisition if the sample is a leukemic blood.

Children to Adults: Collect 2-5 mL

Newborns: Attempt to draw 1-2 mL within 12 hours of birth (the earlier the better). This timely collection permits a 1 day culture. In the Nashville area, contact the lab immediately for pick up.

PUBS (Fetal Blood): Collect 1-2 mL
Contact laboratory immediately.

Final results can be expected in 3-7 days. Preliminary results for newborns will be phoned in 1 day in most cases.

AMNIOTIC FLUID

- Clean immediate area with Betadine and remove any residue.
- Discard first mL of fluid drawn or use for other testing.
- Draw 15-20 mL of fluid in sterile centrifuge tubes (provided when requested).
- Amniotic fluid alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) and acetylcholinesterase (AChE) testing are available upon request.
- Aneuvysion FISH available upon request.

Final results can be expected in 7-10 days. Preliminary aneuvysion results are available in 1 day.

BONE MARROW

- Clean immediate area with Betadine and remove any residue.
- Transfer 2-5 ml of marrow aspirate into a vacutainer tube containing **SODIUM** heparin or media RPMI 1640 media with sodium heparin.
- From a newborn, 0.5 mL or more is sufficient.
- Specify any chromosome analysis and any FISH requests on the requisition.

Final results can be expected in 2-5 days. Preliminary stat results can be expected in 1 day.

CHORIONIC VILLI

- Clean immediate area with Betadine and remove any residue.
- Obtain 10-20 mg of villi in sterile transport medium (provided by the laboratory).
- With advance notice, a technician may be provided to verify that an adequate sample has been obtained for locations in the Nashville area.

Final results can be expected in 7-10 days. Preliminary results can be expected in 1-3 days.

TUMOR AND LYMPH NODE

- Collect the solid tumor or lymph node in a sterile container.
- When collected in a non-sterile condition, rinse the specimen with a sterile balanced salt solution, Ringer's lactate, or sterile injectable saline.
- Transfer specimen to a sterile tube containing any one of the above mentioned solutions.
- **DO NOT FREEZE. DO NOT ADD FORMALIN.**

Final results for lymph nodes can be expected in 2-4 days. Final results for solid tumors can be expected in 7-10 days.

TISSUE (CONSTITUTIONAL)

Biopsy: Skin

- Clean area with alcohol
- Take a deep 3mm³ sample (small pea size) and transfer to a tube containing RPMI or balanced salt solution.
- **DO NOT FREEZE. DO NOT ADD FORMALIN.**

Final results can be expected in 7-10 days.

URINE

- Collect ≥33 mL of urine in a sterile container.
- Mix the urine at a 2:1 ratio with either Carbowax or PreservCyt.
- Refrigerate the sample until the courier arrives.

Final results can be expected in 7-10 days.

TRANSPORTATION

Call **Genetics Associates, Inc.** at 615.327.4532 for pick up.

Collection kits will be provided.

Complete requisition form with patient name and address, tentative diagnosis and referring physician.

Store sample in refrigerator (**Do Not Freeze**) until courier arrives.

AVOID TEMPERATURE EXTREMES.

Federal Express overnight shipment will be provided for all outlying areas.

Saturday Delivery

Whenever there is a sample to be shipped on Friday, please be sure to mark the "Saturday Delivery" box on the Fed Ex Airbill!

NOTE: Samples shipped on Saturday by FedEx will not be delivered until the next business day.

■ **Overnight Sample Transportation from May-September**
Please send samples with a cool pack to ensure sample integrity.