

HEMATOPATHOLOGY SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

ALWAYS include white and yellow requisition copies in the specimen kit or in the specimen bag's pouch pocket (keep pink copy for your records). When labeling specimen, always include **two forms of patient identifiers** – patient's name and patient's Date of Birth (D.O.B.) and/or Social Security number. Patient's specimen **must be labeled** in the presence of the patient (or patient's representative). **Please include recent CBC results when necessary.**

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

HISTOLOGY

Specimen:

- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use Formalin jar, green top)
- **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy**

MOLECULAR

Specimen:

- **Bone Marrow Aspirate** (1-2 ml, in EDTA tube(s), lavender tube top, 2-8 °C)
- **Peripheral Blood** (1-3 ml, in EDTA tube(s), lavender tube top, 2-8 °C)
- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use Formalin jar, green top)
- **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy**

CYTOGENETICS

Specimen:

- **Bone Marrow Aspirate** (1-2ml in Sodium Heparin, green tube top)
- **Peripheral Blood** (3-5 ml in Sodium Heparin, green tube top)

FLUORESCENCE IN SITU HYBRIDIZATION (FISH)

Specimen:

- **Bone Marrow Aspirate** (1-2ml in Sodium Heparin, green tube top)
- **Peripheral Blood** (3-5 ml in Sodium Heparin, green tube top)
- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use Formalin jar, green top)
- **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy**

FLOW CYTOMETRY

Specimen:

- **Bone Marrow Aspirate** (1-2ml in Sodium Heparin, green tube top)
- **Peripheral Blood** (5-8 ml in Sodium Heparin, green tube top)
- **Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)** (sterile container/tube, no additives—send as much as possible, 4 °C)
- **Fine Needle Aspirate (FNA)/Tissue** (in complete **RPML media**, 4 °C **Note:** RPML media is a pink solution that may be requested from Acupath Laboratories).

SPECIMEN TRANSPORTATION

- Bone Marrow and blood specimens should be transported at room temperature, protected from temperature extremes. Best if cold pack used during transport. Be sure cold pack is not in direct contact with specimen during transport.
- FNA/Tissue should be transported in complete **RPML media** at 4 °C with cold pack(s).
- CSF samples should be kept at 4 °C during transport with cold pack(s).

PACKING/SHIPPING SPECIMEN IN FLOW CYTOMETRY KIT/CYTOGENETICS/MOLECULAR

Label each tube, slide, and/or jar with the patient ID, and attach label to each specimen. Slides should be labeled **in pencil** with the patient's **First and Last Name** at the time of the procedure. Insert prepared slides into plastic slide case. Insert tubes within the



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absorbent pouch provided. Then, insert slides *and* tubes into small zip-lock bag with plastic slide box. Seal the plastic zipper along its entire track. Place the zip-lock bag into circular hole in foam block.

Place frozen cold pack(s) inside slot provided next to blood or bone marrow specimens if temperatures exceed 75°F, avoiding direct contact with tubes to prevent freezing. FNA/Tissue/CSF must **ALWAYS** be sent with cold pack. Place green cap formalin vial in corresponding hole in foam slot (next to larger hole). Seal entire foam block in large zip-lock bag. Place completed test requisition in rear of box, outside of large zip bag.

SPECIMENS MAY BECOME COMPROMISED UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

- Flow Cytometry and Cytogenetics specimens received frozen
- Bone Marrow or Peripheral Blood sent for Flow Cytometry or Cytogenetics received in non-heparin (EDTA, ACD) or in a tube without anti-coagulant
- Flow Cytometry and Cytogenetics specimen that is hemolysed or clotted
- Leaking Specimen
- Specimen is **greater than 48 hours old** at arrival to the laboratory
- Tissue Specimen is extremely necrotic/hemorrhagic condition
- Specimen kept at temperature extremes will be processed, but noted as "**Suboptimal Specimen**"

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