

Specimen Requirements

FOR BREAST PATHOLOGY

ALWAYS include white and yellow requisition copies in the specimen bag's pouch pocket (keep pink copy for your records). If you use an EMR, please print out a copy of the e-requisition and include it with each specimen. 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).

Histology

SPECIMEN:

WE ACCEPT ALL BIOPSIES AND EXCISION SPECIMENS FROM ALL SITES

- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use formalin container)
- **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy**
- **Unstained Slides** - POSITIVELY CHARGED SLIDES ONLY

ACUPATH PERFORMS BOTH FLOW CYTOMETRY AND HISTOLOGY / NON-GYN CYTOLOGY TESTING ON THE SAME SPECIMEN FOR LYMPHOMA EVALUATIONS.

Please split the specimen and submit in the proper media*.

**See requirements below for Histology, Non-Gyn Cytology and Flow Cytometry.*

TRANSPORT:

- **For Breast Biopsy:** All breast core biopsies must be fixed in formalin for 6-8 hours prior to arrival at laboratory. **Client must also state on requisition the time removed from the patient and the time the specimen was put into the formalin. (Cold Ischemic Time)**

SLIDES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LABELED IN PENCIL WITH PATIENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME.

A leaking container can compromise the fixation and integrity or stability of the specimen.

Non-Gyn Cytology

SPECIMEN:

- **Fine Needle Aspiration / direct smears and/or fluid material**

TRANSPORT (**DO NOT SUBMIT ANY CYTOLOGY SPECIMENS IN FORMALIN**):

- **Fine Needle Aspiration / direct smears and/or fluid material:** Use Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) tube, ThinPrep® CytoLyt Solution, orange tube top.

Containers and tubes should be labeled with the patient's name, D.O.B. or Social Security number, location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure. Place containers and tubes into Acupath specimen bag, and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch.

SLIDES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LABELED IN PENCIL WITH PATIENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME. If using cytology kit, place specimen containers in corresponding slots in tray located in cytology kit. Remove tray from cytology kit, place in biohazard specimen bag, then seal bag. Place tray back in cytology kit with **ALL** paperwork and close kit tight. **PLEASE DISCARD ANY UNUSED CONTAINERS.**

Flow Cytometry

SPECIMEN:

Fine Needle Aspirate (FNA)/Tissue (Submit in complete **RPML media**, 4°C). **Note:** RPML media is a pink solution that may be requested from Acupath Laboratories. When ordering supplies, specify RPML media tubes.

TRANSPORT: **ALL** FNA/Tissue should be transported in complete **RPML media** at 4°C **with cold pack(s)**. Label each tube and/or container with the patient ID and attach label to each specimen. Insert tubes and containers into small zip-lock specimen bag and seal the plastic zipper along its entire track. Remember to keep the specimen cold with cold packs (may be requested from Acupath).

FISH (fluorescence in situ hybridization)

FISH for Breast Cancer - PathVysion™

SPECIMEN:

- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use formalin container)
- **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy**

TRANSPORT: **For Breast Biopsy** - All breast core biopsies must be fixed in formalin for 6-8 hours prior to arrival at laboratory. **Client must also state on requisition the time removed from the patient and the time the specimen was put into the formalin.** Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly or place paraffin blocks in Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. All containers must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. When possible, write the location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure. **During the summer months, use a cold pack when shipping a block. Blocks received melted in transit will be re-embedded.**

Frozen Section Evaluation

SPECIMEN:

- **Fresh Tissue** (use sterile container)

TRANSPORT: Tissue in frozen section evaluation should be submitted in a **sterile container**. Must be prearranged with the pathologist, histology staff and the couriers, and delivered to the laboratory within 10-15 minutes of collection. The specimen should be kept cool - on ice pack or moist in saline gauze and brought to the laboratory immediately. Include **ALL** paperwork.



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For the Absolute Highest Standard in Breast Pathology

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