

Specimen Requirements

FOR ORTHOPEDIC 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: Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly or place capped syringes, contained slides or paraffin blocks in Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. All containers, syringes and slides 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.**

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**
- **Joint fluid** – For non-gyn cytology or crystal identification

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.
- **Joint fluid – For non-gyn cytology:** Must submit fresh specimen in sterile container without using any type of fixative.
- **Joint fluid – For crystal identification:** Must submit fresh specimen in sterile container without using any type of fixative. Please do not send the needle with the specimen. Note: If specimen is obtained by syringe and the specimen volume or quality will be compromised by transfer from syringe to sterile container, we will accept syringe, however, the needle must be removed from the syringe and the syringe capped. The syringe must be labeled with proper patient identifiers.

Containers, tubes and syringes 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, tubes and syringes 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 tube and container 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 TUBES AND CONTAINERS.** Needles must be removed from all syringes, and the syringe must be capped.

Flow Cytometry

SPECIMEN:

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

Cerebral Spinal Fluid – Must submit in sterile container without using any type of fixative.

TRANSPORT: **ALL** FNA/Tissue should be transported in complete **RPMI 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).



SPORT-2, ver 1 | SEPT 2026

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