

Specimen Requirements

FOR PLASTIC SURGERY 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 INCLUDING BREAST (EVALUATIONS FOR LYMPHOMA)

- **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.**
- **For all other biopsies:** 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:

- **Soft Tissue: Fine Needle Aspiration / Direct Smears**

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. **SLIDES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LABELED IN PENCIL WITH PATIENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME.** Place containers and tubes in Acupath specimen bag and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. If using cytology kit, place specimen tube and slide 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 TUBES AND CONTAINERS.**

FISH (Fluorescence in situ Hybridization)

AcuProbe® Melanoma and AcuProbe® Spitz Nevus

SPECIMEN:

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

If submitting a previously diagnosed case for FISH only, please submit block and representative slides.

TRANSPORT: For Skin Biopsy - Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly. Place containers or 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.**



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FISH (continued)

FISH for Breast Cancer - PathVysion™

SPECIMEN:

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

If submitting a previously diagnosed case for FISH only, please submit block and representative slides.

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 and 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.

Direct Immunofluorescence (DIF)

SPECIMEN:

- **Skin or Mucous Membrane** (place in **MICHEL'S FIXATIVE – Container with bright pink label, DO NOT PLACE IN FORMALIN**)

TRANSPORT: All specimens undergoing DIF should be immediately placed in **MICHEL'S FIXATIVE** supplied by Acupath Laboratories, Inc. DIF specimens placed in fixative other than Michel's fixative will be rejected.

All DIF specimens should arrive in the laboratory within 24 hours of removal from the patient.

Containers must have the patient's name and D.O.B. or Social Security number, location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure on lime green label. Place containers in Acupath biohazard specimen bag, and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch.

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.

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).

Molecular Genetics

SPECIMEN:

For HPV testing by In Situ Hybridization (ISH) and T-Cell Gene Rearrangement Studies for Mycoses Fungoides and other Cutaneous Lymphomas:

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

TRANSPORT: Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly. Place containers or 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.**



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