

Specimen Requirements & Handling Procedures

The quality of laboratory results is highly dependent upon proper specimen collection and handling. Listed below are specimen requirements and handling procedures for tests performed by University Pathologists Diagnostics and Neogenomics Laboratories

Specimen Type	Cytogenetics	FISH	Flow Cytometry	Bone Marrow Morphology	IHC	Molecular	Storage
Bone Marrow Aspirate	Sodium Heparin 1-2 mL (Green Top)	Sodium Heparin 1-2 mL (Green Top) EDTA OK if Sodium Heparin is not available	EDTA 1mL (Purple Top) Provide CBC Sodium Heparin OK if EDTA is not available	EDTA with 5-10 smears/slides and 2 touch imprints Sodium Heparin OK if EDTA is not available	N/A	EDTA 2 mL (Purple Top)	Use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Peripheral Blood	Sodium Heparin 2-5 mL (Green Top) Provide CBC	Sodium Heparin 2-5 mL (Green Top) EDTA OK if Sodium Heparin is not available	EDTA 1mL (Purple Top) Provide CBC Sodium Heparin OK if EDTA is not available	EDTA with 5-10 smears/slides Sodium Heparin OK if EDTA is not available	N/A	EDTA 5 mL (Purple Top)	Use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Bone Marrow Core Biopsy and/or Aspirate Clot (10% NBF)	N/A	N/A	N/A	1-2 cm core (length) 10x formalin to specimen volume. Additional 2 touch imprints preferred	1-2 cm core (length) core and clot sent in separate formalin containers	N/A	Use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Fresh Bone Marrow Core Biopsy	1-2 cm core (length) Tissue in RPMI	1-2 cm core (length) Tissue in RPMI	1-2 cm core (length) Tissue in RPMI	N/A	N/A	EDTA 2 mL (Purple Top)	Use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Fresh/Unfixed Tissue	Tissue in RPMI two pieces minimum 0.2 cm ³	Tissue in RPMI two pieces minimum 0.2 cm ³	Tissue in RPMI	N/A	N/A	Tissue, fresh in RPMI, or frozen Two pieces minimum 0.2 cm ³	Send frozen if applicable or refrigerate and use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Fluids	Equal part RPMI to specimen volume	Equal part RPMI to specimen volume	Equal part RPMI to specimen volume	N/A	N/A	Fresh, no preservative	Refrigerate and use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Paraffin Block or Cut Slide	N/A	Suitable only for select assays; see website to confirm. 1 H&E slide, plus paraffin block or 4 unstained slides cut at 4-5 microns. Use positively-charged slides and 10% NBF fixative. Avoid zinc fixatives.	N/A	N/A	FFPE tissue block or 3-4 micron thick tissue sections on positively charged slides, at least 3 slides per antibody. No additives in waterbath	Suitable for select assays; see website to confirm. 1 H&E slide, plus paraffin block or 5-10 unstained slides cut at 5 or more microns. Use positively-charged slides and 10% NBF fixative. Avoid zinc fixatives.	Use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.
Voided Urine	N/A	30-50 mL with supplied fixative tablet	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Refrigerate and use cool pack during transport. Overnight delivery or courier pickup.