



# CYTOLOGY SPECIMEN FOR FLOW CYTOMETRY

## INDICATIONS:

When a specimen is being obtained to rule out lymphoma (Spinal fluid, FNA, etc.) correct specimen collection is required to properly process the specimen for a definitive diagnosis. Specimens may require flow cytometry, cytogenetics, and microbiology studies, in addition to routine microscopic pathology. Specimens will be subdivided for special studies, if required upon arrival to the laboratory.

## SPECIMEN(S):

1. Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)
2. FNA
3. Tissue

## COLLECTION:

RPMI Directions - Prior to collection, obtain RPMI solution from your lab. RPMI solution needs to be refrigerated until immediately prior to the biopsy procedure. Once the specimen is placed in RPMI, the solution is to be maintained at room temperature. RPMI solution is stable for 30 days when refrigerated.

### Cytology Specimen Collection Procedure:

- Place fluid in RPMI solution (one to one mixture) provided by your lab (see above RPMI directions).
- If microbiology studies are desired, submit specimen in a sterile container.
- Submit completed requisition with the patient's insurance information.  
Please include ICD9 and any clinical information.
- Send the specimen STAT to your lab. Call your lab to arrange for a STAT courier pick-up.

### Tissue Specimen Collection Procedure:

- The specimen must be submitted fresh. The specimen may be submitted in RPMI or wrapped in gauze moistened with normal saline or distilled water and refrigerated until courier pick up. The specimen must be refrigerated ASAP, failure to do so will compromise the integrity of the cells.
- If Microbiology studies are desired, submit specimen in sterile container.
- Submit completed requisition with the patient's insurance information.  
Please include ICD9 and any clinical information.
- Send the specimen STAT to your lab.  
Call your lab to arrange for a STAT courier pick-up.



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### **COLLECTION CONTINUED:**

Complete test requisition including last and first name of patient, patient's date of birth and social security number, body site and source of specimen collected. Label specimen container (using the labels provided on the requisition) with patient's first name and last name, and body site/source. The container must have at least two (2) unique identifiers. Examples of unique identifiers: patient name, DOB, unique bar code, etc. Include pertinent clinical information, i.e., previous malignancy, radiation therapy, drugs, etc. Place container in a specimen bag with a biohazard label. Place the requisition in the side pocket of the specimen bag.