

Flow cytometry/Immunophenotyping specimen collection & transport instructions

Blood (Peripheral)

- Depending upon the panel requested, collect one sodium heparin tube and/or one EDTA tube
 - For B cell enumeration or PNH, collect EDTA only
 - For Immunodeficiency panel, collect sodium heparin (Na Heparin) only and included a copy of CBC/differential results
 - Store and transport at room temperature
- If flow cytometry *and* peripheral blood morphology are needed, order a Peripheral Blood Morphology (LAB470), completing a Morphology request form or Excellian order. Indicate on the form that flow cytometry is desired following pathologist review. Collect one EDTA and one sodium heparin
- ***Specimens submitted in Lithium Heparin are not acceptable and will be rejected***
- Store and transport at ambient (room) temperature

Body Fluid

- Collect 20 mL (minimum 5 mL) and place in a sterile conical tube; do not add anti-coagulant or holding media
 - The volume needed is dependent on the white blood cell (WBC) count. Smaller volumes are sufficient if the cell count is high
- Send representative slides (will be returned)
- Store and transport at 4°C (refrigerated)

Bone Marrow

- Collect 3 mL (minimum 1mL) in a sodium heparinized syringe and transfer to an anti-coagulant free tube. Specimens collected in EDTA are acceptable but not preferable
- If unable to collect a bone marrow aspirate, a bone marrow core placed in *RPMI with Hepes, Pen Strep and FBS* is acceptable
- Send representative slides (will be returned)
- Store and transport at ambient (room) temperature

DNA Ploidy

- Send formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue block
- Transport at ambient (room) temperature

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Spinal Fluid

- Collect 5 mL (minimum 1 mL) in a spinal fluid conical tube. Leave specimen in its own fluid (do not add anti-coagulant or holding media). The volume needed is dependent on the white blood cell count. Smaller volumes are sufficient if the cell count is high
- Send representative slides (will be returned)
- Store and transport at 4°C (refrigerated)

Tissue

- Immediately after collection, place fine needle aspirate (FNA) or tissue in *RPMI with Hepes, Pen Strep and FBS*
- *Tissue submitted in saline or B5 fixative is not acceptable and will be rejected.*
- Send representative slides (will be returned)
- Store and transport at 4°C (refrigerated)