

Specimen Collection Information

Sample type	Testing ordered	Container	Volume/Size required
Amniotic fluid [#]	Molecular	15mL Conical Tubes	20-30mL
Peripheral Blood	Molecular	EDTA vacutainer	Adults, 3 ml Newborns, <1 month, 1mL
	Cytogenetics	Sodium Heparin vacutainer	Adults, 3-5 mL Newborns, <1 month, 2mL
Bone Marrow	Cytogenetics	Sodium Heparin vacutainer	2-4mL
Buccal Swab	Molecular	Cytology brush	Two cytology brushes
Cord blood [#]	Molecular	EDTA vacutainer	2-4mL
	Cytogenetics	Sodium Heparin vacutainer	2-4mL
CVS [#] - Call is required that sample is being sent	Molecular	15 mL Conical tube or sterile specimen container in sterile media or saline	10-15mg minimum
Lymph Node	Cytogenetics	Sterile specimen container in sterile media or saline**	>5 mm ³ TUMOUR BIOPSY
Skin Biopsy* [†]	Molecular	Sterile specimen container in sterile media or saline**	3 mm minimum punch biopsy
	Cytogenetics		
Tissue [#] – Product of Conception	Molecular	Sterile specimen container. Send frozen	Autopsy performed - psoas preferred (100mg)
			No autopsy performed - Piece of cord preferred (100mg)
Tissue* – Post Mortem	Molecular	Sterile specimen container. Send frozen	>5 mm ³
	Cytogenetics	Sterile specimen container in sterile media or saline**	>5 mm ³
Tumour*	Cytogenetics	Sterile specimen container in sterile media or saline**	>5 mm ³ representative TUMOUR tissue

[#]Maternal blood sent in EDTA is required.

[†] For skin biopsies, clean skin surface 3 times with 70% isopropyl alcohol by either pouring over the skin surface, or using sterile cotton pads saturated by dipping in the alcohol from a sterile container. Skin should be allowed to air dry between applications. **Never** use betadine as it can inhibit or prevent cell growth. For numbing the area, use 2% lidocaine or 2% lidocaine w/epinephrine 1:100,000 using a small gauge (22G) needle just under the skin to create a bleb.

*All tissue and tumour samples must be collected under sterile conditions

** Tissue culture media can be obtained from the Cytogenetics Lab or may be substituted with sterile normal saline.

***If referring to another centre, please provide **with the sample**, information regarding collection, processing and shipping, as well as a letter to accompany the sample including the name and address of the referring centre, which study is required, completed paperwork for the referring centre and patient details. For research samples, additional information may be required before the sample can be released.

Please note:

Samples sent for any genetic testing should not be exposed to Formalin.

Cytogenetic testing cannot be done on samples that have been frozen.