

Hematopathology

General Guidelines for Hematopathology/Flow Cytometry

◆ Specimen Collection Instructions: Bone Marrow Aspirate and Biopsy

The site of collection is the superior iliac crest. On rare occasions sternal puncture is performed for aspirate only.

1. Prepare the site of collection with sterilizing agent.
2. Use local anesthesia to numb the skin, subcutaneous tissues and the periosteum.
3. Insert the aspirate needle into the site of aspiration. Aspirate ½ to 1 mL of bone marrow material that is used for making the slides. Other pulls of aspirate material may be collected for other specified testing as flow cytometry, cytogenetics, culture, etc.
4. Use a biopsy needle to collect a bone marrow core. Fixed decalcified core is processed, sectioned and stained for microscopic evaluation.
5. Clean the site of aspiration after performing the procedure, and cover it with a sterile patch for 24 hours.

**For more information call
Adult Hematology/Oncology Laboratory
317-944-2707**

◆ Specimen Collection Instructions: Specimens for Flow Cytometry

1. Indicate specimen type, date and time, referring physician, patient information including DOB, or medical record number on requisition.
 - a. **Bone Marrow** – Use sodium heparin preservative, send room temperature, include aspirate smear.
 - b. **Peripheral Blood** – Use sodium heparin preservative, send room temperature, include Wright's stained PB smear.
 - c. **Lymph Node** – Use RPMI 1640 medium, refrigerate specimen during transport, do not freeze.
 - d. **Fine Needle Aspirate** - Use RPMI 1640 medium, refrigerate specimen during transport, and do not freeze.
 - e. **Other tissue** – Use RPMI 1640 medium, refrigerate specimen during transport, do not freeze, and specify tissue submitted.
2. Please call Flow Lab at **317-491-6000** before sending specimen.
3. For optimal results, send specimen by courier or by overnight delivery. If sending on Friday, specify Saturday delivery.
4. Deliver specimens to

Indiana University Health Pathology Laboratory
350 W. 11th Street, Room 5001
Indianapolis, IN 46202-4108

Contact Client Services 317-491-6000

Specimen Container Labeling

See “Specimen Identification and Labeling” for detailed instructions

Primary Specimens: Primary specimens are the body fluid, tissue, or sample submitted for examination, study, or analysis. It may be within a collection tube, cup, syringe, swab, slide, data file, or other form as received by the laboratory.

Must include: At least two patient-specific identifiers, which include, but limited to: patient name, date of birth, hospital number, social security number, requisition number, accession number, unique random number.

Secondary Specimens: Any derivative of the primary specimen used in subsequent phases of testing. It may be an aliquot, dilution tube, slide, block, culture plate, reaction unit, data extract file, image, or other form during the processing or testing of a specimen. (The aliquots or images created by automated devices and tracked by internal electronic means are not secondary specimens.)

Must include: A single, unique identifier derived from the primary specimen for use in subsequent phases of testing and must provide reliable identification and be linked to the full particulars of patient identification, collection date, specimen type, etc.