

NON-GYN CYTOLOGY SPECIMEN COLLECTION GUIDE

Any FRESH (unfixed) specimen submitted in the original collection container requires refrigeration. These specimens must be delivered to Cytology immediately or refrigerated. Improperly fixed specimens will not be accepted. Samples collected in CytoLyt solution, formalin, or 95% alcohol, do NOT require refrigeration. Solution transport and storage temperature requirements:

- FRESH specimen storage and transport: 2-8°C
 - o RPMI/Hank's solution (flow) storage and transport: ambient; specimen stability: 4 days refrigerated (preferred) or ambient
- CytoLyt storage and transport: 15-30°C; specimen stability: 8 days at 15-30°C
- Formalin storage and transport: 15-30°C
- 95% alcohol storage and transport: room temperature

Specimens must be labeled with two patient identifiers i.e. patient full name and DOB – specimens without two identifiers will be delayed until two identifiers are present. Specimens must be accompanied by a valid order in Epic or a completed requisition (outside of Epic- information on requisition must match specimen label).

Slide specimens will not be accepted if slide is broken or crushed beyond repair.

URINE- collect in sterile container, submit in original container. Indicate collection source i.e. voided or clean catch, catheterized, bladder washing or kidney washing.

CEREBROSPINAL FLUID- collect in sterile CSF collection tubes. Submit tube #3 for cytology, preferably.

FLUID I.E. PLEURAL, PERITONEAL, PERICARDIAL- collect in sterile container, submit in original container.

RESPIRATORY I.E. SPUTUM, BRONCHIAL LAVAGE/WASHING- collect in sterile container, submit in original container.

BRONCHIAL BRUSHINGS- prepare slides, place immediately in 95% alcohol or submit brush tip fresh in saline or fixed in CytoLyt.

GASTROINTESTINAL BRUSHINGS- submit brush fresh or in CytoLyt solution and/or submit slides in 95% alcohol.

SECRETIONS- prepare slides, place immediately in 95% alcohol or collect in CytoLyt.

FNA- Needle rinse in CytoLyt and/or formalin - submit slides in 95% alcohol or air dried.

FLOW CYTOMETRY- submit in original collection container (fluid) or RPMI/Hank's solution (FNA); see **Mayo Leukemia and Lymphoma Phenotyping, Technical Only, Varies** and/or **Leukemia and Lymphoma Immunophenotyping, Technical Only, Tissue** for more information.