

Oncology Specimen Requirements

Bone marrow aspirate

1-3 ml Chromosome analysis and FISH

- Collect in a **sodium heparin**-rinsed syringe and place in a red top (no additive) tube, and store at room temperature.
- If specimen is not heparinized at collection, place in a **sodium heparin** (green top) tube, and store at room temperature.

Bone marrow core (in cases of packed marrow)

3-10 mm³ Chromosome analysis and FISH

- Collect in a sterile plastic screw-top tube with sterile transport or RPMI media and store at room temperature.

Oncology blood

3-6 ml Chromosome analysis and FISH

- Collect in a **sodium heparin** (green top) tube and store at room temperature. This is indicated for high WBC and presence of blasts in blood.

Lymph node and solid tumor biopsies

0.2-1 cm³ Chromosome analysis and FISH

- Collect aseptically, avoiding areas of necrosis, into a sterile plastic screw-top tube with sterile transport media or RPMI and store at room temperature.

Paraffin embedded Tissue

4-5 micron thick FISH

- Place paraffin embedded, formalin fixed sections on “charged” slides. Send 2 unstained slides per FISH probe. An H&E with the tumor indicated is required with the unstained slides.

Cytospins, buccal smears, and touch preps

Call laboratory for details FISH

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