

Bone Marrow Specimen Handling and Transport

PATIENT IDENTIFICATION AND SPECIMEN LABELING

- Specimens must be labeled in adherence to the Specimen / Requisition Label Policy located on the Intranet under Pathology/Laboratory Policies and Procedures.
- Specimens are accepted only from physicians or other persons authorized under law.

REQUISITIONS

Bone Marrow Request Form	Required for all bone marrow aspirates submitted for morphology; top half of the requisition must be completed by ordering caregiver
Colorado Genetics Lab Requisition	Required for all patient samples submitted for cytogenetics testing. Form must be completed by ordering caregiver. Specimen type should be noted.
Oncology-Hematology-BMT Flow Cytometry and Molecular Diagnostics Labs Requisition	Required for all patient samples submitted for flow cytometry or molecular testing; must be completed by ordering caregiver. Specimen type should be noted.
Surgical Pathology Request Form	Required for all bone marrow biopsies submitted to lab; must be completed by the ordering caregiver

SPECIMEN HANDLING AND TRANSPORT

- General Requirements**
- Specimens must be labeled in adherence to the Patient Identification and Specimen Labeling policies located on the Intranet
 - Specimens are only accepted from physicians or other persons authorized under law.
 - Bone Marrow review and interpretation should be complete within 2 working days after specimen receipt, as a standard practice.

Bone Marrow Aspirate

Specimen Collection

Morphology:

- 1-3mL, EDTA tube, mix well
- Heparinized specimens will only be used if EDTA is not available; heparin can interfere with morphology evaluation

Chromosome Analysis:

2-3mL bone marrow in sodium heparin tube

Molecular Diagnostics:

1-3mL, EDTA tube

Flow Cytometry:

- 1-3mL EDTA preferred
- Heparinized bone marrow is acceptable

Specimen Handling and
Transport

- Specimen should be stored at room temperature
- Specimen must be received in the laboratory, as soon as possible, but no later than 8 hours after collection
- Specimen should be transported at room temperature
- Completed Bone Marrow Request Form must accompany the specimen.
- Any additional test requests require special forms.

Bone Marrow Biopsy

Specimen Collection

Specimen must be placed in B Plus Fixative (supplied by lab)

Specimen Handling and
Transport

- Specimen should be stored at room temperature
- Specimen must be received in the laboratory, as soon as possible, but no later than 8 hours after collection
- Specimen should be transported at room temperature
- Completed Surgical Pathology Request Form must accompany the specimen.