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. Blocks are also accepted for processing. 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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