



COLLECTION PROCEDURES FOR NON-GYNECOLOGIC SPECIMENS

SPECIMEN TYPE	FIXATION AND HANDLING GUIDELINES
Anal Cytology	Collect the sample using a moistened Dacron swab or a cytobrush. Rinse the swab/brush as quickly as possible in PreservCyt Solution (A ThinPrep Pap container) by rotating the device in the solution 10 times while pushing against the vial. Discard the device. Use a non-gynecological requisition and write Anal Pap on the form.
Breast Discharge	Smear specimen onto a frosted- end slide labeled with the patient's name and specimen site. Fix expressed material immediately in 95% alcohol or spray with cytology fixative. Smears may also be air dried if there is adequate specimen.
Bronchial Alveolar Lavage	Refrigerate immediately upon collection and transport on cool packs. Do not submit at room temperature and never add alcohol to the specimen. Label the specimen and requisition as a BAL. Microbiology tests must be ordered separately and submitted in a separate container.
Bronchial Brushings	Following collection immediately place the brush in the CytoLyt jar and swirl vigorously to dislodge the material into the container. Discard the brush. Label the jar with the patient's name, DOB, and specimen site.
Bronchial Washings	Add specimen to CytoLyt fluid collection jar. Label jar with patient's name, DOB, and specimen site.
Cerebrospinal Fluids	Fresh specimens must be delivered to Physicians Laboratory within 20 minutes of collection. If there is a delay, e.g. out of town facilities, add the specimen to a CytoLyt fluid collection jar. Label jar with the patients name, date of birth, and specimen site.

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<p>Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy</p>	<p>For instructions on how to collect an FNA specimen please refer to the FNA collection guide under the Documents tab.</p> <p>Upon aspiration, fix 4-5 slides by immediately immersing them in 95% alcohol. Air dry an additional 4-5 slides. Aspirate the remainder into a jar of CytoLyte solution by inserting the syringe into the container, drawing up some of the fluid and re-aspirating it back into the container. Using a sharp pencil label all slides and containers with the patient's name and DOB. Do NOT use any kind of sticky label. Indicate if the slides are alcohol-fixed or air-dried. Indicate whether the Right or Left side was aspirated. If both were aspirated be sure to write which side on all slides and containers. Submit the specimen with a properly filled out requisition, including pertinent patient history. A history form is provided on the back of the requisition for thyroid and breast FNAs.</p>
<p>Scheduling FNAs</p>	<p>FNAs may be scheduled at Physicians Laboratory of Sioux Falls by calling Client Services at 605-322-7212 or by calling the pathologist directly. FNAs at Physicians Laboratory of Northwest Iowa may be scheduled by calling 712-262-3795.</p>



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Specimen Type	Fixation and Handling Guidelines
Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy for Flow Cytometry	<p>Occasionally a specimen is collected that may need further testing and classification by flow cytometry, primarily lymph node aspirations. If you need to send a specimen for flow cytometry call Physicians Laboratory to obtain RPMI media before collecting the specimen. Dedicate at least one pass to collection of the specimen for flow and rinse the needle directly into the RPMI media. Label with the patient's name and DOB. Indicate what testing you desire on the requisition and send with any prepared slides and/or fluid in CytoLyte.</p>
Body Fluids/Cyst Fluids Pleural, Peritoneal, Pericardial, Thoracentesis, Paracentesis, Ovarian Cysts	<p>Send all the fluid that is collected in appropriate containers. See Body Fluid Collection Instructions under the Forms tab for more specific instructions. Add 1cc of heparin per 100mls of fluid to prevent clotting. Smaller amounts of fluid may be collected in CytoLyt jars if desired. Label the specimen with the patient's name, DOB, and specimen site.</p>
Sputum	<p>Provide the patient with a CytoLyte fluid collection jar. Instruct the patient to cough deeply and expectorate deep cough material into the container. Label the jar with the patient's name and DOB. Find more specific instructions under the documents tab at www.plpath.com.</p>