

Appendix 1: Request for Cancer Cytogenetics Services

General Information

1. The Cytogenetics Laboratory is staffed from Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm, Saturday 8:30am to 12:30pm. **All specimens should be shipped to the lab within 12-24 hours of collection. Specimen received after 48 hours of collection will nonetheless be processed but results may be compromised.**

For overseas specimens, avoid shipping on Friday or eve of public holidays.

2. Please send specimen to NUH Referral Laboratories (NRL). The billing will be done directly by NRL. Kindly contact NRL for further details.

Address: NUH Referral Laboratories, Level 1
NUH Main Building,
5 Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 119074.
Tel: 6778-5171, Fax: 6778-6220
Email: lee_kian_ng@nuhs.edu.sg
Attention To: Cytogenetics Laboratory

3. An interpretative report will be sent to the requesting clinician/Medical Centre. Turnaround time will be 2 to 3 weeks from receipt of specimen to issuing of the report.

Specimen Requirement

1. For haematological malignancies:
 - a) 1-2 mL of bone marrow is to be collected in sodium heparin (preferred) or lithium heparin tube. Bone marrow collected in **EDTA** tube will be rejected.
 - b) If a marrow aspirate collection is not possible, 4-8mL of peripheral blood sample is also acceptable as an alternative specimen for haematological studies, preferably with WBC $>10 \times 10^9/L$ and a circulating blast count of $>5\%$. Collect blood in sodium heparin (preferred) or lithium heparin tube.
2. All specimens must be kept at room temperature and packaged to protect from temperature extremes (heat and cold). **The specimen should be shipped at room temperature (DO NOT FREEZE, DO NOT SHIP DIRECTLY ON ICE)** and delivered to the lab as soon as possible.
3. Specimens should be accompanied by a completed request form, including details of clinical history/relevant clinical information, diagnosis, specimen type, requesting physician's name, contact phone number.
4. Please contact Ms Chua Sok Peng if there are any queries.

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