

# Specimen Requirements FOR GASTROINTESTINAL PATHOLOGY

**ALWAYS** include white and yellow requisition copies in the specimen bag's pouch pocket (keep pink copy for your records). If you use an EMR, please print out a copy of the e-requisition and include it with each specimen. When labeling specimen, always include **two forms of patient identifiers** – patient's name and patient's Date of Birth (D.O.B.) and/or Social Security number. Patient's specimen **must be labeled** in the presence of the patient (or patient's representative).

## Histology

### SPECIMEN:

- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use formalin container) **OR**
- **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy** **OR**
- **Unstained Slides** - POSITIVELY CHARGED SLIDES ONLY

**ACUPATH PERFORMS BOTH FLOW CYTOMETRY AND HISTOLOGY / NON-GYN CYTOLOGY TESTING ON THE SAME SPECIMEN FOR LYMPHOMA EVALUATIONS. Please split the specimen and submit in the proper media\*.**

*\*See requirements below for Histology, Non-Gyn Cytology and Flow Cytometry.*

### WE ACCEPT BIOPSIES FROM ALL SITES

**TRANSPORT:** Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly or place capped syringes, contained slides or paraffin blocks in Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. All containers, syringes and slides must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. When possible, write the location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure. **During the summer months, use a cold pack when shipping a block. Blocks received melted in transit will be re-embedded.**

**SLIDES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LABELED IN PENCIL WITH PATIENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME**

*A leaking container can compromise the fixation and integrity or stability of the specimen.*

## Non-Gyn Cytology

### SPECIMEN:

- **Brushings / Direct Smears:** Slides should be received fixed in 70% ethyl alcohol slide container; however we will accept dry slides. **Please note on requisition the site and side of the brushing.**
- **Brushings / Brush tip:** Submit brush tip in ThinPrep® Cytolyt Solution tube, orange tube top. **Please note on requisition the site and side of the brushing.**

**TRANSPORT:** Use Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) tube, ThinPrep® Cytolyt Solution, orange tube top. Containers and tubes should be labeled with the patient's name, D.O.B. or Social Security number, location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure. **SLIDES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LABELED IN PENCIL WITH PATIENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME.** Place containers and tubes into Acupath specimen bag, and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. If using cytology kit, place specimen tube and container in corresponding slots in tray located in cytology kit. Remove tray from cytology kit, place in biohazard specimen bag, then seal bag. Place tray back in cytology kit with **ALL** paperwork and close kit tight. **PLEASE DISCARD ANY UNUSED CONTAINERS.**

## FISH (Fluorescence in situ hybridization)

### For HER2 gene amplification

### SPECIMEN:

- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use formalin container) **OR** • **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy** **OR** • **3-5 unstained slides (4-5 microns)**  
**If submitting a previously diagnosed case for FISH only, please submit block and representative slides.**

**TRANSPORT:** Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly. Place containers or paraffin blocks in Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. All containers must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. When possible, write the location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure. **During the summer months, use a cold pack when shipping a block. Blocks received melted in transit will be re-embedded.**

## Flow Cytometry

### SPECIMEN:

- **Tissue/Lymph Node for Lymphoma Evaluation:** Submit in complete **RPMI media**, 4°C. **Note:** RPMI media is a pink solution that may be requested from Acupath Laboratories. When ordering supplies, specify RPMI media tubes.
- TRANSPORT:** **ALL** FNA/Tissue should be transported in complete **RPMI media** at 4°C **with cold pack(s)**. Label each tube and/or container with the patient ID and attach label to each specimen. Insert tubes and containers into small zip-lock specimen bag and seal the plastic zipper along its entire track. Remember to keep the specimen cold with cold packs (may be requested from Acupath).

## Molecular Genetics

### SPECIMEN:

#### For Infectious Agents by In Situ Hybridization (ISH)

- **Formalin-fixed Tissue Biopsy** (use formalin container) **OR** • **Paraffin-embedded Biopsy**

**TRANSPORT:** Place in biopsy container with 10% formalin fixative (use formalin container) and seal lid tightly. Place containers or paraffin blocks in Acupath biohazard specimen bag and zip pouch. Insert **ALL** paperwork in rear pouch. All containers must be labeled with the patient's name and either D.O.B. or Social Security number. When possible, write the location/type of specimen and physician who performed the procedure. **During the summer months, use a cold pack when shipping a block. Blocks received melted in transit will be re-embedded.**

