

SPECIMEN PROCESSING

Living Cancer Cells are Required for EVA-PCD Functional Profiling
DO keep sterile and maintain at room temperature
DO NOT freeze, mince or place specimens in Formalin

Must be received at Rational Therapeutics within 24 hours of collection

Solid Tumor Biopsy: Immediately place fresh biopsy specimen (**at least one gram of viable malignant tissue**) into media containing transport tube. Needle biopsies do not provide enough viable tumor for analysis. In the absence of transport media provided by Rational Therapeutics, use sterile RPMI 1640 complete or lactated Ringer's solution.

Malignant Effusions (Pleural or Ascites Fluids): Prior to aspirating fluid, place 20,000 units of sterile heparin into a sterile evacuation container. Aspirate malignant fluid (500-1000 ml). Do not use Pleura-Evac container. Using sterile gauze over needle, **vent bottle to eliminate any residual vacuum**. Submit a portion of fluid to pathology for cytologic review. Maintain sample at room temperature.

Blood (Leukemia) Specimens: Obtain 7-10 ml of blood in EDTA purple top tubes. Mix by gentle inversion. **Specimens must contain >30% blasts**. Keep at room temperature — do not refrigerate.

Bone Marrow (Leukemia & Myeloma) Specimens: Submit 1-3 ml of **first pull or redirected syringe** bone marrow into heparinized, hematologic transport tubes provided by Rational Therapeutics. Specimens must contain **>30% plasma cells or blasts**.

PACKING AND SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

Solids & Hematologies

1. Write the patient name, date/time and specimen site on transport tube label.
2. Seal transport tube tightly.
3. Place specimen and Cold-Pak in transport box.
4. Enclose completed Requisition & Patient Information (face of admitting record) and specimen transport box into FedEx "Diagnostic Specimen Envelope" and seal.
5. Attach FedEx Airbill. Be sure that the airbill is marked "**FedEx Priority Overnight**" delivery.

Fluid Specimens

1. Place fluid contained inside the FedEx "Diagnostic Specimen Envelope" and seal.
2. Place specimen, completed Requisition and Patient Information (face of admitting record) into transport box.
3. Attach Fed Ex Airbill to outside of the transport box. Be sure that the airbill is marked "**FedEx Priority Overnight.**"

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!!!

Specimens sent on Fridays must be marked **HOLD SATURDAY-FEDEX LOCATION**
DO NOT send specimen without first contacting Rational Therapeutics