

SPECIMEN COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Specimen Type	Test Requested	Collection Protocol
Amniotic Fluid	Routine Cytogenetics, DNA Analysis, FISH Studies	Amniotic fluid specimens (approx. 20cc) should be collected and put in sterile culture tubes. Label the tubes with the patient's name and the date the specimen was drawn. Cover the tubes with aluminum foil or a paper towel to prevent light from reaching the fluid. Keep the specimen at room temperature.
Blood	Routine Cytogenetics	Blood specimens (2-3cc with minimum 1cc) should be collected in green top sodium heparin vacutainer tubes. Label the specimen with the patient's name and the date and time that the specimen was drawn. The specimen should be kept at room temperature.
	DNA Analysis	Collect (3-5cc with minimum 2cc) of peripheral blood in an EDTA (lavender top) tube. Label specimen with patient's name and time of collection. Store the sample at room temperature if held for less than 12 hours. If the sample is held for longer than 12 hours, it should be refrigerated.
	Microarray (180k Array CGH)	Postnatal: Two EDTA (lavender top) tubes with 3-5cc with minimum 2cc blood per tube (one tube for infants and children) and One sodium heparin (green top) vacutainer tube with 3cc with minimum 1cc blood (one cc for infants and children) For Prenatal Microarray or on Products of Conception (POC), please call.
	FISH	Blood specimens (2-3cc with minimum 1cc) should be collected in green top sodium heparin vacutainer tubes. Label the specimen with the patient's name and the date and time that the specimen was drawn. The specimen should be kept at room temperature.
	Breakage Studies	Blood specimens (4cc with minimum 3cc) should be collected in green top sodium heparin vacutainer tubes. Label the specimen with the patient's name and the date and time that the specimen was drawn. The specimen should be kept at room temperature.
Bone Marrow	Routine Cytogenetics Analysis	Bone marrow specimens (2-4cc with minimum 2cc) should be collected in bone marrow transport tubes (provided by Genetics Center) or in green top sodium heparin vacutainer tubes. Label specimen with the patient's name and the date and time the specimen was drawn. Bone marrow must be processed immediately after obtaining it. Notify the Genetics Center prior to doing the collection so that preparations and immediate pick up of the specimen can be arranged. If a bone marrow tap is unsuccessful, a peripheral blood sample can be drawn. This blood will be treated as a bone marrow (i.e. unstimulated cultures) so that an abnormal cell line, if present, can be investigated.
Tissues	Routine Cytogenetics	Tissue specimens should be transferred to sterile containers containing sterile tissue culture media (provided by the Genetics Center) or put into a sterile container with sterile saline solution. Keep the specimen at room temperature.
Products of Conception (POC)	Routine Cytogenetics	POC specimens should be transferred to sterile containers containing sterile tissue culture media (provided by the Genetics Center) or put into a sterile container with sterile saline solution. An ideal specimen would contain villi and membrane or umbilical cord samples as well as fetal skin samples; however, any fetal tissue sample can be cultured. Keep the specimen at room temperature.