

The Kennedy Krieger Institute
Cytogenetics Laboratory
Baltimore, Maryland, 21205

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND DELIVERY

Constitutional chromosome analysis (karyotype) is recommended for individuals with developmental delay with or without dysmorphic features/congenital abnormalities.

Neoplastic chromosome analysis (karyotype) is recommended to identify acquired abnormalities in individuals with possible diagnosis of leukemia or lymphoma.

Specimen requirements:

Constitutional chromosome analysis: 2-5 ml of whole blood* in green-top tube sodium heparin preferably without preservatives
OR
5 um skin biopsy - biopsy kits, including media, may be obtained from our laboratory

Neoplastic chromosome analysis: 2-5 ml of bone marrow* in green-top tube sodium heparin preferably without preservatives

Constitutional FISH analysis: 2-5 ml of whole blood* in green-top tube sodium heparin preferably without preservatives

Microarray or SNP analysis: 2-5 ml of whole blood* in purple-top tube
AND
2-5 ml of whole blood* in green-top tube sodium heparin preferably without preservatives
OR
5 um skin biopsy
OR
2 confluent T-25 cm² fibroblast cultures.

Cell line establishment: 5 um skin biopsy - biopsy kits, including media, may be obtained from our laboratory

Be sure to invert the tube gently several times to prevent clots.

*If it is not possible to obtain the amount indicated, as little as 1 ml can be submitted.

The specimen can be left at room temperature before delivery to the laboratory. Prompt receipt of a specimen often gives better results, especially bone marrows. Do not freeze the specimen or place in ice. Generally, specimens older than 3 days will be rejected. At the discretion of the laboratory director culturing might be attempted in specimens older than 3 days.

A Request Form must accompany all specimens.

Acceptable forms include:

Kennedy Krieger Physicians orders and Lab requisition form
Pathology Cytogenetics form
Physician Order Entry (POE)
Other forms are acceptable if all required information is included.

The form must include the following:

- 1 - patient's name
- 2 - date of birth
- 3 - patient sex
- 4 - history number
- 5 - requesting physician or authorize person requesting test
- 6 - specimen source
- 7 - specimen collection date
- 8 - name or code of test requested
- 9 - indication for testing

Deliver specimens to:

Cytogenetics Laboratory at Kennedy Krieger Institute
707 N. Broadway
Room 506
Phone number 443-923-2785.