

Sparrow Lab
Anatomic Pathology
Lansing, MI

Bone Marrow Collection and Fixation Information

PROCEDURE:

Aspirate Sample (aliquot on total amount aspirated)

1. Using sterile technique established by the physician's office/surgery center, transfer a small aliquot to an EDTA (lavender top) tube before the sample clots and set aside.
2. Use a small amount of the remaining aspirate to prepare particle smears.
3. Transfer an aliquot to transport media if flow cytometry is requested and an aliquot to a heparinized tube (green top) if cytogenetics testing is requested. Both specimens may be submitted in a heparinized tube (green top) and separated by the reference laboratory for flow and cytogenetics.

Biopsy Sample

1. Make several touch imprints (4 slides), if it is a dry tap, make 8 slides.
2. Transfer the biopsy into 10% neutral buffered formalin. Sparrow Lab personnel will transfer the specimen into decalcification solution upon receipt of specimen. The specimen should be decalcified for 2-4 hours.
3. Peripheral smear slide and corresponding CBC report should be submitted with the specimen when available and reticulocyte results if available.
4. Sparrow Lab will ask that the physician's office fill out a special studies request form to submit with the bone marrow specimen. **Patient billing information must accompany the bone marrow specimen if cytogenetic studies and flow cytometry testing is requested.** If available before the procedure, it is helpful to fax the special studies request form.