



DERMATOLOGY

SPECIMEN COLLECTION GUIDE

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin (Routine Specimen)
- Michel's Transport Media (Direct Immunofluorescence testing)
- Dermatopathology Requisition
- Biohazard Bag

COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out Dermatopathology Requisition; or send electronic order. Please include any pertinent clinical history, rule outs, and the following information:
 - a. Patient's name, date of birth, sex, and address
 - b. Date and time of collection
 - c. Time in formalin (breast biopsies or history of breast carcinoma patients only)
 - d. Full name of the ordering physician
 - e. The specimen source (with laterality, if applicable)
2. Include patient demographics in paper form or via electronic order.
3. Label the leak-proof specimen container with at least 2 patient identifiers (full name and date of birth) and the specimen source/type of tissue.
4. Collect the tissue per your facility's procedure. Put the tissue for routine histology into the labeled 10% neutral buffered formalin container with specimen to formalin volume ratio of at least 1:20, place tissue in formalin immediately. Tighten all containers.
 - a. If the specimen is for direct immunofluorescence (DIF) testing place the specimen into Michel's transport media and keep at room temperature. Send the specimen to the pathology lab STAT. The specimen must be received in the lab within 5 days of collection and can be sent at room temperature.
5. Place the labeled specimen container(s) into the biohazard bag and seal it. Place the Dermatopathology Requisition and patient demographics in the outer pocket of the biohazard bag.
6. Transport to lab via courier or shipping service.

STORAGE

Store at room temperature.

LIMITATIONS

Incorrect or insufficient fixative can limit interpretation. Time in formalin less than 6 hours or exceeding 72 hours will limit effectiveness of biomarker testing if that is needed at some point (biomarker testing is not performed at Sagis but can be referenced to a performing laboratory).

CAUSES FOR REJECTION

1. Category A infected specimen (i.e. prion disease).
2. The specimen is not received from a licensed, authorized source.
3. The specimen was intended for another laboratory.
4. Unlabeled specimen container(s).
5. Specimen not received within adequate time period from collection (see above for DIF testing).