



# BONE MARROW COLLECTION TIP SHEET

Collections can only be performed M-F. Please contact the Hematopathology Fellow on-call (215-265-1089) for information about collection on weekends and holidays.

## Penn Chart

Order Name: Surgical Pathology – Hematologic (SPHEM) Px Code: SGPATH11

Note: Ordering with a STAT or Routine Immediate status will print Cerner labels IMMEDIATELY.

- Distinct orders must be placed for each of the sample types
- If only sending a core biopsy, only order on the biopsy sample
- If it is a “dry tap,” but you can pull even just a drop of aspirate, place it in a lavender tube, order the aspirate, and send it for evaluation- the lab will determine if the sample is adequate for a work up.

Special Studies: The SPHEM is the order for a surgical pathology evaluation on the sample, including the processing, grossing, and evaluation of slides. Any ancillary studies should be listed as a “special studies” under the bone marrow aspirate only. For special cases, like a dry tap, we can attempt ancillary testing on a biopsy that is in saline.

## Collection Materials

For first biopsy: Zinc Formalin Fixative - Lawson # 288290

For aspirate (collect all 4 tubes when possible):

- 1 glass Sodium-Heparin tube [fill to 2 mL]
- 3 EDTA tubes [fill to 2 mL in each]

Glass slides for biopsy touch preps or bedside smears (see second page):

Label frosted section of slides with 2 unique identifiers; a small Cerner label can be used

Send **ONLY** in a plastic slide-mailer (Fisher Scientific catalog #22363901) – Lawson # 108587)

Saline filled container for extra core biopsy (if collected)

***TIP:** We have lost many specimens due to leaking. Please ensure that the lid had been seated evenly and that you hear two clicks when closing the lid. Do not place the label over the lid to secure the lid, because this is a patient identification risk.*

## Send Out Testing

All bone marrow aspirate send-out testing **MUST** be sent through the lab. Place a completed requisition from the outside laboratory with and extra specimen tube in the bag with the rest of the case, and delivery to the lab.

## Specimen Delivery

Packaging specimen for transport:

Place all collected specimens in a plastic bag. Fold requisition form where patient identification is visible and place in the plastic bag sleeve with patient identification facing outward.

Specimen Transport from HUP Floor:

Hand deliver all samples to Central Receiving and Processing (7th floor Founders) **within an hour** of collection. For the liquid APP service, coordinate with your administrative assistant for delivery.

Specimen Transport from Perelman Center:

Place single case bag in pickup box for courier.

Specimen Transport from non-HUP facility:

Refer to individual site requirement for shipping specimen to HUP Central Receiving and Processing.

## Lab Contacts

Hematopathology Laboratory: 215-662-6196

Technical Manager: Joshua Edwards; Joshua.edwards@pennmedicine.upenn.edu; 267-319-5622

Technical Specialist: Darrin Jengehino; Darrin.jengehino@pennmedicine.upenn.edu; 267-319-6361

Please contact anyone in the lab if you have questions about test ordering or sample collection.

Refer to <https://www.testmenu.com/HUP> for more detailed specimen requirements by test.

# BONE MARROW SLIDE TIP SHEET

While it is not required to create slides at the bedside when collecting a bone marrow, any submitted slide may help contribute to the evaluation of the case if the submitted material is aspicular and/or hemodilute. To create slides that can be used by the laboratory, please follow these steps:

## ASPIRATE SMEARS

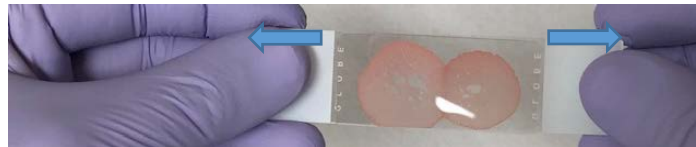
1. Place two clean slides on your workspace with the frosted side facing up. Place a **small** drop of aspirate in the center of the slide approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the distance from the frosted section. If the drops are too large, it will create thick regions that will not dry and cannot be stained.



2. Using both hands, pick up both slides, inverting one slide so the frosted side for that slide is facing down.



3. Too much pressure will crush the cells, so without pressing the slides, touch them together so the aspirate spreads evenly over both slides. In one quick motion, gently pull the slides apart, dragging them across the other.



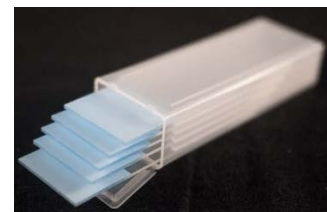
4. Make sure the slides are completely dry before placing in a slide mailer. You should be able to hold a slide perpendicular to your workspace without any liquid running off the slide.



(thin and even, dry layer)



(very thick and runny smear)



## TOUCH PREPARATIONS

Place two clean slides on your workspace with the frosted side facing up. Gently touch the biopsy to the slide several times to create a faint impression. If the biopsy is too wet, it will create thick regions that will not dry and cannot be stained.

