

Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF): Day(s)
/ Time(s) Performed:

Monday - Friday
8am-5pm

Turn Around Time:**

24 hours

Specimen Collection Supplies:

- **Specimen Collection Container**

If delay is anticipated to be longer than 24 hours for delivery:

- **CytoLyt solution**

Specimen Collection:

1. Discard the first drops from the tap.
2. Obtain as much spinal fluid as clinical judgment allows.
3. Place a screw-top tube supplied by the floor. Prioritize the necessary lab tests, i.e. microbiology, hematology, cytology.
4. If placing in CytoLyt solution; tighten cap ensuring black lines are aligned.

Specimen Handling:

Room temperature if specimen is delivered upon collection.*

***If slight delivery delay is anticipated, refrigerate**

***If a longer delivery delay is anticipated (more than 24 hours), record the volume of the specimen and deposit the specimen in CytoLyt solution.**

Specimen Requirements:

- Labeled with two (2) patient identifiers
- Completed Cytology Specimen Requisition
- All specimens should be placed in a secondary "Biohazard Safety Bag".

Transportation:

Immediately Delivered / Send to Laboratory or Teton Pathology

Comments / Special Instructions:

CSF is a highly perishable specimen; if specimen is to be obtained in the afternoon notify the laboratory. CytoLyt solution can be obtained from Teton Pathology
Do not fix in formalin

Rejection Criteria:

- **Inadequate Information / Missing Requisition**
- **Unlabeled / Mislabeled Specimen**
- **Specimen received in inappropriate fixative**
- **CSF that has been frozen or spun**

Retention Time of Specimen:

One (1) Week After Final Report is Issued

Laboratory Testing Performed:

Cytopathology – Teton Pathology