

REQUIREMENTS FOR TUMOUR SPECIMENS REFERRED TO VICTORIAN CANCER CYTOGENETICS SERVICE

Solid tumour specimens do not form a large part of our service but are extremely labour-intensive and require prolonged and multiple cultures. The only cases that will be processed will be those where the following diagnoses are considered likely as cytogenetics ±FISH provide important diagnostic or prognostic information in these tumours:

- Ewing tumours
- Synovial sarcoma
- Myxoid and round cell liposarcoma
- Rhabdomyosarcoma
- Desmoplastic small round cell tumours
- Wilm tumours
- Neuroblastoma

THE REQUEST FORM MUST SPECIFICALLY REQUEST CYTOGENETICS.

Specimens should be:

- From a viable area of tumour.
- **Specimens taken from areas of necrosis or normal tissue or from a previously heavily irradiated area are not appropriate for cytogenetic analysis of the tumour.**
- Kept sterile at all times.
- At least 0.5cm³ in size.
- **Fine needle aspirates and very small samples will not be processed as our success rate is very low with these samples.**
- Placed in sterile, clearly labelled containers containing RPMI, PBS or viral transport medium and kept at room temperature.
- Sent promptly.
- **Samples arriving more than 24 hours after collection will not be processed.**
- Delivered Monday to Friday to the laboratory, before 4pm if possible to:

Attention: Victorian Cancer Cytogenetics Service

Specimen Reception - 2nd floor Inpatient Services Building
St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne
Victoria Parade, Fitzroy 3065
(03) 9231-4154