FOUNDATIONONE® HEME

FFPE Specimen
(slides or block submission)
Preparation Instructions

NOTE FOR BONE SAMPLES: Do not use strong acids to decalcify. Hydrochloric acid should be avoided; Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) is recommended, and formic acid has mixed results. Place sample in decalcifying solution for minimal amount of time. Using a weaker acid and shorter time for decalcifying preserves the nucleic acid and increases likelihood for getting results on bone samples

1 SAMPLE TYPE

Formalin-fixed, paraffin embedded (FFPE) BLOCK or 16 unstained slides (+ 1 Hematoxylin and eosin stain (H&E) slide)

Tissue should be formalin-fixed and embedded into a paraffin block.
If sending slides, send 16 unstained slides (charged and unbaked, with tissue cut at a 5 micron thickness) plus 1 H&E slide.

Other types of FFPE specimens can include:

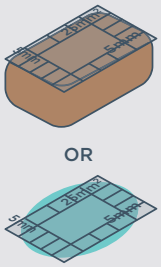
- Needle core or excisional biopsies of haematologic malignancies or sarcomas
- Cytology cell blocks of pleural or ascites fluid
- Bone marrow aspirate clot sections (bone marrow aspirate can be allowed to clot naturally, placed in formalin fixative, and then embedded into a paraffin block)
- Bone marrow core biopsies (see information above regarding decalcification)

Specimens of suboptimal size, cellularity, or tumour content may require additional unstained slides or an alternate tissue block to be provided.

2 SURFACE AREA

Optimum: 5 x 5 mm^2

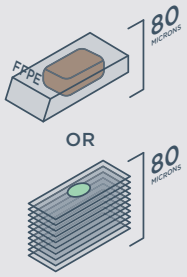
Tissue should have a surface area of at least 25 mm^2 (5 x 5 mm^2, 2.5 x 10 mm^2).



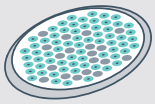
3 SURFACE VOLUME

Optimum: 2 mm^3

Optimal sample volume can be achieved by sending optimal tissue surface area (25 mm^2) at a depth of ≥80 microns. For suboptimal tissue surface area, additional depth is required.



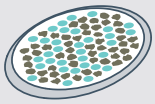
4 NUCLEATED CELLULARITY



Nucleated cellular elements dictate DNA yield as DNA is extracted from nucleated cells. Samples with low nucleated cellularity (e.g. those with abundant mature erythrocytes, lesional cells that contain excessive cytoplasm, or tissue with extensive associated fibrosis) may require greater tissue volume to yield sufficient DNA at extraction.

5 TUMOUR CONTENT

Minimum: ≥20%



If the ratio of nucleated malignant to nucleated non-malignant cells is too low, sensitivity of detection of certain classes of alterations is reduced and may result in a qualified report or may require an alternate specimen for analysis. High tumour content is preferable.

Note for liver specimens: Minimum tumour content is ≥40%.

Note: All cytologic and histologic specimens will be reviewed internally by a pathologist and a determination of sample adequacy will be made. Additional or alternate material may be requested for optimal analysis.

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