

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Clinicians submitting samples (CSF, FNA, Core Biopsy, Tissues) for clinical suspicion of lymphoma.

**FROM:** Colleen Caines, Manager, Division of Anatomical Pathology  
Jennifer Merrimen, Section Head, Cytopathology

**DATE:** August 19, 2015

**Subject:** Process change for sample submission of Flow Cytometry and Cytopathologic interpretation specimens

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Please note the following changes for samples submitted to the laboratory for Flow Cytometry and Cytopathologic interpretation.

In cases where there is clinical suspicion of lymphoma, **two (2) separate samples** should be submitted to the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

1. Specimen for **flow cytometry analysis must be:**

- Collected in RPMI 1640 medium
- Accompanied with appropriate requisition
  - CSF– Requisition # QE7850 Cerebrospinal Fluid
  - All other Specimens– Requisition #CD0002A Inpatient and Clinic *or* # CD0002B Primary Care.
  - Delivered by STAT porter **immediately after collection**, directly to the Flow Cytometry Lab (Room 216 Mackenzie). Samples should be received **within 30 minutes or less after collection** and in the laboratory **by 3pm** to ensure timely processing/optimal results

*Please note: RPMI 1640 medium can be obtained through the distribution warehouse on Dorey Avenue, Catalogue #193897. The reagent must be stored 2–8°C and be protected from light. Please discard reagent if there is a noted color change (From orange–red to yellow or bright pink). Reagent should not be used past expiry. Please allow 1 week for delivery.*

2. Specimen for **cytopathologic interpretation must be:**

- A separate specimen collected in CytoLyt fixative
- Accompanied by blue cytology requisition.
  - Please ensure the requisition clearly indicates “***clinical suspicion of lymphoma***” to ensure sample is prioritized appropriately.
- Delivered by porter to Central Specimen Accessioning (Room 126 Mackenzie Building).

Please do not hesitate to contact the Flow Cytometry Laboratory at 473–5549 or Cytopathology at 473–8408 if you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes.