

CY Job Aid for Cytology Fixation Guidelines

Related SOP: Equipment: Thin Prep
Responsibility: Lab Technical Specialist

Reviewed: July 8, 2014

CYTOLOGY FIXATION GUIDELINES

SPECIMEN	CONTAINER	FIXATIVE	REQUISITION	NOTES
Bronchial & Esophageal Washings, Sputum	Sterile specimen trap or Sterile Specimen container 60 ml	Add CytoLyt fixative at ratio of 1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately add fixative. Refrigeration preferred, not required. Do not freeze.
Brushing Specimens e.g., Bronchial, Esophageal, Gastric, etc.	Sterile specimen container 60 ml	Specimen container containing enough CytoLyt fixative to cover brush.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately immerse brush in fixative. Refrigeration not required. Do not freeze.
Renal or Common Bile Duct brushings	Sterile specimen container 60 ml	Specimen container containing enough CytoLyt fixative to cover brush.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately immerse brush in fixative. Refrigeration not required. Do not freeze.
Cerebrospinal Fluids	Minimum 1 ml specimen in 8 ml sterile capped tube.	Add CytoLyt fixative at a ratio of 1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately add fixative. Refrigeration preferred, not required. Do not freeze.
Gastric Washings	Sterile specimen trap	Add CytoLyt fixative at ratio of 1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately add fixative. Refrigeration preferred, not required. Do not freeze.
Fine Needle Aspiration Specimens e.g. Thyroid, Breast etc.	Centrifuge tube containing 10 ml of CytoLyt fixative	50 ml Conical Centrifuge Tubes containing CytoLyt	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately aspirate specimen into fixative. Refrigeration not required. Do not freeze.
Serous Cavity Fluids/Washings Pleural, Pericardial, Peritoneal, Joint Fluids	Sterile specimen container 60 ml	Add CytoLyt fixative at ratio of 1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately add fixative. Refrigeration preferred, not required. Do not freeze.
Urine	Sterile specimen container 60 ml	Add CytoLyt fixative at ratio of 1 part fixative to 3 parts specimen.	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	Immediately add fixative. Refrigeration preferred, not required. Do not freeze.
Gynecological Smears	Microscope slide, placed in cardboard slide mailer	IMMEDIATE Cytofixative Pump Spray	Cytology CD 1840 06/08	* Fix Specimen Immediately

PROPER FIXATION IS NECESSARY FOR ACCURATE CYTOLOGIC EVALUATION. CYTOLYT FIXATIVE ORDER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM CYTOLOGY. CALL 473-7591.

Cytology Hours 07:30 - 16:30 Phone 473-7591
Cytology Technical Specialist 473-7592
Cytology Supervisor 473-8408

DO NOT FREEZE CYTOLOGY SPECIMENS