

## Specimen Handling Instructions for CTR-Test®

### **Please Note Before Getting Started**

- Patient must not have had chemotherapy or radiation therapy within 2 weeks of specimen collection.
- Store the transport tube in refrigerator (+4°C) until usage.
- Freeze cool pack(s) in freezer (-20°C) at least 24 h before surgery.
- Organize tumor pick-up one day before surgery. Contact logistic company according to additional provided country specific information.  
For questions call TherapySelect (Tel: +49-6221-8936-152).
- Fax completed forms ("*Laboratory Service Requisition*" and "*Patient Consent and Patient Order*") to TherapySelect (Fax: +49-6221-8936-153).

### **Specimen Collection**

#### **Important:**

In order to get high quality results, it is important that only fresh, living samples are shipped on the day of specimen collection. Avoid any microbiological contamination.  
Since living cells are required, there must not be formalin-fixation or freezing of the specimen.

#### **For Solid Tumors:**

- Obtain fresh specimen, which is at least 1 gram of viable tumor tissue (i.e. a cube with at least 1 cm edge length).
- Directly after collection rinse specimen in sterile, physiological saline or lactated Ringer's solution.
- Immediately place sample into the inner transport tube which contains transport media. Larger specimen should be cut. In any case the sample should move freely within the medium. In case there is no or not enough transport medium, one can use sterile Ringer's solution or RPMI 1640 instead.
- Secure inner tube tightly.
- Label the inner tube and place it into the outer tube. Secure tightly and label outer tube as well.
- Continue with packing and shipping.

#### **Malignant Effusions:**

- Collect 250-2000 ml of fluid in a sterile evacuation bottle or polyethylene bag. Do not use Pleur-Evac system containers.
- Immediately add 3 units of heparin per 1 ml of fluid. (This step is preferable but not required.)
- Retain a portion of the fluid for your cytology department.

### **Packing and Shipping of Specimen**

- Place transport tube – together with the cool pack(s) in the transport box and close it with the polystyrene foam lid.
- Close the outer cardboard box and place it in the transport bag.
- Put the filled out "*Laboratory Service Requisition*" and "*Patient Consent and Patient Order*" form into the transport bag.
- Seal the transport bag.
- Ensure that package and signed (air) waybill is present for pick-up at arranged time and site.
- For shipping of malignant effusions use the transport kit for malignant effusions provided by TherapySelect.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us:

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