



## **EVA-PCD Functional Analysis**

Ex Vivo Analysis of Programmed Cell Death

### **Specimen Processing – IMPORTANT!**

- **Living cancer cells are required for the EVA-PCD Functional Profile**
- **DO keep the specimen sterile and maintain at room temperature.**
- **DO NOT freeze, mince or place specimens in Formalin.**
- **MUST BE RECEIVED AT NCI WITHIN 24 HOURS OF COLLECTION**

**Solid Tumor Biopsy:** Immediately place fresh biopsy specimen (at least one gram of viable malignant tissue) into media containing transport tube. Needle biopsies do not provide enough viable tumor for analysis. In the absence of NCI transport media, use sterile RPMI 1640 complete or lactated Ringer's solution.

**Malignant Effusions (Pleural or Ascites Fluids):** Prior to aspirating fluid, place 20,000 units of sterile heparin into a sterile evacuation container. Aspirate malignant fluid (preferably 500-1000 ml). Do not use Pleura-Evac container. Using sterile gauze over needle, vent bottle to eliminate any residual vacuum. Submit a portion of fluid to pathology for cytologic review. Maintain sample at room temperature.

**Blood (Leukemia) Specimens:** Obtain 7-10 ml of blood in EDTA purple top tubes. Mix by gentle inversion. Specimens must contain >30% blasts. Keep specimen at room temperature. Do not refrigerate.

**Bone Marrow (Leukemia & Myeloma) Specimens:** Submit 1-3 ml of the first pull or redirected syringe bone marrow into NCI heparinized, hematologic transport tubes. Specimens must contain >30% plasma cells or blasts.

### **Packing And Shipping Instructions**

#### **Solids and Hematologies**

1. Write the patient name, date/time and specimen site on the transport tube label.
2. Seal the transport tube tightly.
3. Place specimen and Cold-Pak in transport box.
4. Enclose completed Requisition & Patient Information (Face or Admitting Record) and specimen transport box into FedEx "Diagnostic Specimen Envelope" and seal.
5. Attach FedEx Airbill. Be sure that the airbill is marked "FedEx Priority Overnight" delivery.

#### **Fluid Specimens**

1. Place fluid container inside the FedEx "Diagnostic Specimen Envelope" and seal.
2. Place specimen, completed Requisition and Patient Information (Face or Admitting Record) into transport box.
3. Attach Fed Ex Airbill to outside of the transport box. Be sure that the airbill is marked "FedEx Priority Overnight" delivery.

## **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!!!**

**Specimens sent on Fridays Must be marked HOLD SATURDAY – FEDEX LOCATION**

**Do not send specimen without first contacting NCI 562.989.6455**