

# Specimen Collection and Handling Procedures

**Please Note:** Laboratory test result quality is highly dependent upon proper specimen collection and handling procedures. The specimen requirements and handling procedures for tests processed in the bioTheranostics laboratory are listed below. All samples must be labeled with the patient name and date of collection. Unlabeled specimens will not be accepted for testing.

<b>Fixation Method</b>	Formalin-Fixed Paraffin-Embedded (FFPE) tissue. (Recommended fixative: 10% Neutral Buffered Formalin)
<b>Sample Type</b>	FFPE block or slides (see below for further details)
<b>CancerTYPE ID Specimen Requirements*</b>	<p>Blocks (formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded) are <b>highly recommended</b> for optimal testing. Blocks will be returned immediately following test completion. If there are multiple blocks available, please select the block that contains the highest tumor load.</p> <p>If sending a block is not possible, please send an H&amp;E stained slide plus 3-4 unstained, 7 micron sections on Leica membrane slides (laser micro-dissection <b>cannot</b> be performed on regular glass slides). Leica membrane slides may be obtained by calling bioTheranostics Client Services.</p> <p>bioTheranostics accepts FFPE blocks from surgical resections, excisional biopsies, fine needle aspirates (FNA) and biopsy, core needle biopsies, cell blocks (pleural effusions, ascites and FNAs) and bone marrow. A minimum of 300-500 viable tumor cells are required for testing.</p>
<b>BRAF and KRAS Specimen Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue block</li> <li>Testing can be performed on primary tumor or a site of metastasis</li> </ul> <p><b>Options</b></p> <p>1) <i>FFPE tissue block containing 40% to 50% tumor (preferred).</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>2) <i>Four precut unstained slides from paraffin block in 10 micron sections and one H&amp;E reference slide</i></p>
<b>Storage Conditions</b>	Room temperature (15 - 30° C).
<b>Stability of Specimen</b>	Recommend shipping within 1 week of preparation. Do not freeze slides.
<b>Transportation Requirements</b>	Ambient kit.
<b>Questions about Specimens</b>	bioTheranostics' scientific staff is available to answer questions about specimen and sample viability prior to sending blocks or slides for testing – <b>call Toll Free (877) 886-6739 between 7am and 5pm Pacific Time.</b>
<b>Additional Information</b>	If possible, please enclose a copy of the pathology report with the specimen.

Please label sample blocks or slides with identifiers that are also written on or affixed to the Test Requisition form, such as patient name, case number, and/or sample number. We regret that we cannot accept samples for testing if the identifiers used on the blocks or slides do not match those listed on the Test Requisition form submitted with the samples. We are also unable to accept sample blocks or slides that are not labeled.

**Transportation:** Place specimen blocks or slides in a plastic slide cassette. Place the cassette and the completed Test Requisition form in a FedEx envelope or bioTheranostics Specimen Shipping Kit. Send specimens via FedEx **“Standard Overnight”** service. A pickup may be scheduled online at [www.fedex.com](http://www.fedex.com) or by calling (800) 463-3339.

**Note:** Shipping kits and bioTheranostics' FedEx account information may be obtained from Client Services at Toll Free (877) 886-6739.

\*Recommended decalcifier for bone biopsies is Formic Acid

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