



## Instructions for Submitting Samples for Haematology/Oncology Cytogenetic Testing

**PLEASE NOTE THAT INCOMPLETE OR ILLEGIBLE LABELLING OF FORMS AND/OR SPECIMENS, OR USE OF INCORRECT SPECIMEN TUBES, MAY RESULT IN DELAYS OR REJECTION OF SPECIMENS.**

### **Requirements:**

Specimens and request forms must generally contain Full Name (1<sup>st</sup> name and surname) and DOB *or* Hospital Number. Specimen tubes and referral paperwork must agree with each other. Full details of our 'Sample Identification Policy' are available at [www.genetics.ie](http://www.genetics.ie)

### **Chromosome/FISH Analysis:**

- Bone marrow, blood, pleural effusions, and ascites for oncology referrals: Place sample into RPMI medium with heparin.
- Solid tumour and lymph node biopsies: Collect specimen into sterile plastic container filled with culture medium (Ham's F10 supplemented with 10% foetal calf serum and antibiotics is recommended).

**Samples for cytogenetics should be dispatched as soon as possible by post or courier. Prior to dispatch samples must never be frozen and ideally should be kept at room temperature. Gently invert tubes several times to avoid clotting of blood or marrow samples.**

Directed FISH analysis is also possible on bone marrow smears, cyto spins, and touch preps (please contact the laboratory prior to sending these preparations, for further details).

**Further information regarding this service is available on our website**

[www.genetics.ie](http://www.genetics.ie)