

## Specimen Preparation and Shipping Guidelines

The quality of laboratory results is highly dependent upon proper specimen collection and handling. Specimen storage conditions and stability is critical in isolating high-quality nucleic acids and insuring maximum sensitivity of detected significant variants.

### SOLID TUMOR TESTING

Specimen Requirements	FFPE/TISSUE
Container	Formalin-fixed, paraffin embedded (FFPE) specimens. Standard fixation methods to preserve nucleic acid integrity should be used including 10% neutral-buffered formalin fixed for 24–72 hours. DO NOT use other fixatives (Bouins, B5, AZF, Holland’s).
	FFPE: <b>1 H&amp;E slide</b> and 6-10 unstained slides, 5-7 microns thick. Please circle tumor on H&E for microdissection.  The tissue must contain sufficient tumor to be macro-dissected to a concentration of greater than 20% tumor cells in a normal cell background.  Number of slides is dependent on size of the tissue and the tissue fixation and processing.
Volume - Optimal	10 slides 5–7 microns thick with a size range of 20mm <sup>2</sup> to 200mm <sup>2</sup> for a total of up to 2.0mm <sup>3</sup>
Volume - Minimum	6 slides 5–7 microns thick with a size range of 20mm <sup>2</sup> to 200mm <sup>2</sup> for a total of up to 1.0mm <sup>3</sup>  Note: The extraction process has not been evaluated for specimens less than 5–10µM thick FFPE tissue samples ranging in size from 0.1mm <sup>3</sup> to 2.0mm <sup>3</sup> .
Stability & Storage Requirements	Store sample at room temperature or refrigerated. Stability: Stable
Other Considerations	Microtomy for Molecular Testing, to avoid cross contamination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use a microtome blade for each case</li> <li>Clean the water bath between cases</li> <li>Wear gloves and change them frequently, especially between specimens, to prevent contamination of the sample.</li> </ul>
Unacceptable Specimens	Tissue decalcified in strong acid decalcification procedures. Specimens fixed in Zinc fixatives or Bouins, B5, AZF, Holland’s.

❖ **Shipping Instructions-Use the Solid Tumor Transport Kit**

- ❖ Complete Requisition, making sure all sections are completed in their entirety including Client information, Patient Information, Specimen Information and Test Selection. Missing information may delay reporting of test results.
- ❖ Diagnosis/Patient History is extremely important in rendering the correct interpretation of results and should also be filled out as completely as possible. A copy of a Path report should be included.
- ❖ Insure the specimen is labeled with patient name and number. A minimum of two patient identifiers is REQUIRED for each specimen.
- ❖ If sending FFPE Block-Insert up to 6 blocks into plastic block tray provided. Insert block tray into foam insert in the transport box.
- ❖ If sending slides-Insert slides into plastic slide holders provided. Insert the the slide holders into the foam insert in the transport box. The container will hold up to 6 maximum slide holders.
- ❖ Place folded test requisition(s) and/or manifest(s) if ordered electronically into the transport kit.
- ❖ Close box and tuck tabs into place. No tape necessary.

If you have any questions regarding the kits or instructions for use, please contact us at:

[gtc@genomictestingcooperative.com](mailto:gtc@genomictestingcooperative.com)

or call at **1-866-484-8870** Option 2

**Online Test Ordering-** Online Ordering capabilities are available

Test orders as well as test add-ons can be performed quickly and efficiently in our GTC LIS portal.

Results are available immediately upon release.

Contact our customer care for access.

Thank you!