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| **Specimen Type** | **Appropriate Specimens** | **Container** |
| Body Fluids* Ascitic
* Pleural
* Pericardial
* Peritoneal
* Pancreatic Cyst Fluids
* Ovarian Cyst Fluids

***PLEASE NOTE THAT CELL COUNTS ARE NO LONGER PERFORMED***  | * Please send in at least 25ml of fluid – 50ml if possible.
 | 25 ml sterile universal containerDescription: http://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQrnbvle9T6dkz0EbhCMUAKTUQ5ZGFdo2mFlNS4F3nzRuidm2FUTlN3pqds |
| Breast Cyst Fluid | **Send only if blood stained** | 25 ml sterile universal container |
| Breast Fine Needle Aspirates | * Prepare two fixed slides as directed by laboratory personnel
* Rinse needle in preservcyt solution

\*If not trained in slide spreading, please just send in needle rinse\* |  Slides must be labelled in pencil with name and date of birth/unit numberNeedle Wash10 ml preservcyt in 25 ml sterile universal container |
| Bronchial Brushes | * Brush is sent to laboratory

***PLEASE DO NOT PREPARE SLIDES*** | Vial of 10ml cytorich red |
| Bronchial Washes | * Add wash to universal and top up with cytorich red – ensure at least 50% of fluid is cytorich red.
 | 25 ml sterile universal container containing cytorich red |
| Bronchoalveolar Lavage | * Add wash to small universal and send immediately –

\*Please state on form whether the identification of fat-laden or haemosiderin-laden macrophages is required\* | 25ml sterile universal container |
| CSF | * Please send to laboratory immediately after taking specimen
* If the specimen is taken outside of normal laboratory hours the specimen must be refrigerated
 | Small glass vial or 25ml sterile universal container |
| Fine Needle Aspirates | * Prepare one fixed and one air-dried

slide as directed by laboratory personnel* For Thyroid specimens, rinse needle in phosphate buffered saline
* All others rinse needle in preservcyt solution
 | Slides must be labelled in pencil with name and date of birth/unit numberNeedle Wash10 ml preservcyt or phosphate buffered saline in 25 ml sterile universal container |
| Gastrointestinal Tract material | * Brush is sent to laboratory

***PLEASE DO NOT PREPARE SLIDES*** | 10 ml of phosphate buffered saline OR cytorich red in 25 ml sterile universal container |
| Pancreatic FNA | * Rinse needle in cytorich red
 | Vial of 10ml cytorich red or 10ml cytorich red in sterile universal container |
| Sputum | * Deep cough early in the morning prior to brushing teeth or eating breakfast
* Specimens should be taken on 3 consecutive days.
 | Sputum potDescription: http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQnXDu1Nm8vlj8LSNu8J7IGTagNd9fRkglGoOrA4gzOt0Ry1nuFx_lNww |
| ***\*PLEASE NOTE: Sputum specimens should not be sent for the diagnosis of PCPs\**** |
| Urine | * Freshly voided specimen preferably mid-morning
* Avoid early morning urine as the cells will appear degenerate and interpretation will be difficult/non diagnostic
* Avoid catheter specimens
* If catheter specimen cannot be avoided, please note on request form
 | 25 ml sterile universal container |