

NON-GYNECOLOGICAL (NON-GYN) CYTOLOGY COLLECTION GUIDE

Bladder Washing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile container. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Body Fluids (Pleural, Ascites, Pericardial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled clean syringe, tube or bottle. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do NOT submit syringe with needle attached. • Submit as much fluid as possible up to one liter. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to lab as soon as possible.
Bronchial Brushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detach brush tip(s) and place in properly labeled container of CytoLyt or normal saline; include anatomic location on label. • If in saline, refrigerate (specimens in CytoLyt are stable at room temperature). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: Using brush specimens to make glass slides at point of collection is NOT recommended and should only be done if rapid intraoperative consultation is absolutely necessary. • Do NOT place in formalin. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Bronchial Washing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in sterile container(s) with proper labeling, including anatomic location (e.g. LUL, LLL, RLL, RML, etc.). • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to lab as soon as possible.
Brochoalveolar Lavage (BAL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in sterile container(s) with proper labeling, including anatomic location (e.g. LUL, LLL, RLL, RML, etc.). • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile 8 mL CSF tube(s). • Designate tube numbers on labels in order of collection (i.e. #1, #2, #3, #4). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tube #3 or #4 should be designated for cytology. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver as soon as possible to the lab.

Common Bile Duct (CBD)/Biliary Brushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect in the same manner as bronchial brushing – refer to Bronchial Brushing instructions above.
Cyst Fluid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile container. Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Esophageal Brushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect in the same manner as bronchial brushing – refer to Bronchial Brushing instructions above.
Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) – with or without Slides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) Cytology Collection Guide.
Gastric Brushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect in the same manner as bronchial brushing – refer to Bronchial Brushing instructions above.
Nipple Discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a pencil, label 2 glass slides with patient’s full name and DOB, along with the letter “F” (for fixed) on one slide and the letters “AD” (for air dried) on the other. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write specimen source on each slide (e.g. right breast) under DOB. Leave space on label for lab to write case #. Do NOT write any of the following on slide labels: MRN, doctor’s name, or date/time. Do NOT use any kind of ink (ballpoint pen, fine point Sharpie, etc.) to label slide. Place a drop of specimen near middle of slide labeled “F”; using a blank slide, gently smear specimen down the slide away from label. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately spray with cytology fixative and allow to dry. Place a drop of specimen near middle of slide labeled “AD”; using a blank slide, gently smear specimen down the slide away from label. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow slide to air dry. (Do NOT spray with fixative.) Discard blank slide. Note: Alternatively, specimen may be placed on either the “F” or “AD” slide then smeared by sandwiching the slides together and gently pulling them apart in opposite directions. Place dry slides into slide holder (plastic or cardboard) and tape closed; label outside of holder with patient sticker. Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. Deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Pancreatic Brushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect in the same manner as bronchial brushing – refer to Bronchial Brushing instructions above.

Pelvic Washing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile container. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Sputum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three morning specimens on consecutive days are recommended. • Obtain spontaneously or by aerosol induction. • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile container. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saliva should be avoided and is not useful. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Tzank Smear (for herpes virus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a pencil, label a glass slide with patient's full name and DOB. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Write specimen source on slide under DOB. ○ Leave space on label for lab to write case #. ○ Do NOT write any of the following on slide labels: MRN, doctor's name, or date/time. ○ Do NOT use any kind of ink (ballpoint pen, fine point Sharpie, etc.) to label slide. • If lesion is scabbed over, moisten with sterile saline soaked gauze and soften scab. • Remove some of the scab and scrape area with wooden spatula. • If the lesion is vesicular, break open and scrape the base of the lesion with wooden spatula. • Smear specimen onto slide. • Immediately spray with cytology fixative and allow to dry. • Place dry slide into slide holder (plastic or cardboard) and tape closed; label outside of holder with patient sticker. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Urine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second voided specimen of the day is best for cytology as the first will contain numerous degenerated urothelial cells. • For females, it is recommended that a catheterized specimen be obtained for best results, as squamous cells from the vagina may contaminate or obscure diagnostic cellular details. • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile container. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.
Urethral Washing, Renal Washing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect ≥1 mL fresh specimen in properly labeled sterile container. • Place in bio bag with cytology requisition. • Refrigerate and deliver to the lab as soon as possible.