



Dry Ice Muscle & Nerve Biopsy Specimen Triage

NOTE: DO NOT SHIP ON SATURDAY OR HOLIDAYS

Contact client relations to let us know that you are sending a sample for evaluation at (501) 604-2695.

Separate fresh tissue specimen into 3 parts (in order of importance):

Part 1

Fresh Frozen Tissue: Loosely wrap an intact portion of the specimen (a nice cylinder or belly of muscle) in a small square of tinfoil that has been labeled with the patient's name and surgical pathology number. Freeze this tinfoil-wrapped piece of tissue by placing it onto the dry-ice in a Styrofoam cooler. Close the lid for one minute. Open the container and place the tinfoil-wrapped specimen into a pre-cooled plastic specimen jar labeled with the patient's name, surgical pathology number and biopsy site. Transport the now frozen specimen in the Styrofoam cooler with enough dry ice to last the expected transport time. Do not place formalin-filled or glutaraldehyde-filled containers within the dry-ice cooler as they will freeze. Freeze an extra belly of muscle in a separate piece of tinfoil if the biopsy is big enough.

Part 2

Glutaraldehyde-fixed tissue: Glutaraldehyde penetrates tissue relatively slowly, and therefore small lengths of sharply dissected muscle measuring 2 -3 mm in diameter work best.

Part 3

Formalin-fixed tissue: Ideally 1 cm or less in diameter.

We accept specimens Monday through Saturday.

NOTE: If transporting a specimen for Saturday delivery please be sure to let us know by Friday at 5:00 PM CST and check the shipping label with the following:

- Saturday delivery
- Priority overnight

Please note that it is essential that the tissue be collected and immediately triaged to avoid any deterioration of the tissue. A timely and well-performed triage allows for the most accurate pathologic evaluation of these specimens.