

Bone Marrow Core Biopsy, Clot, and Aspirate Collection Guideline





	Check the biopsy core for adequacy as soon as collected — 1 cm length <b>minimum</b>	
	<ul> <li>Assess whether biopsy piece appears to be bone, cartilage (inadequate), or fat (inadequate).</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Bone has a spongy, porous texture.</li> </ul>	
	• Cartilage has a hard, white appearance and texture. Sometimes tumor will be white or black appearing,	
	but will not usually have the hard texture of cartilage.	
	• Fat has a yellow appearance and soft feel.	
	If inadequate, ask for a redirect for a better core biopsy sample.  From if some of the core concerns inadequate licen all pieces for proceeding.	
	Even if some of the core appears inadequate, keep all pieces for processing.	
	Touch prep instructions	
	• Use forceps to move biopsy core to clean slide and gently roll core across the full length of the slide.	
	Do not crush the biopsy.	
	Make 3 touch preps.	
	Gently remove clot, if necessary.	
	Place all collected biopsy pieces into a formalin vial separate from the clot.	
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	To transport specimen	
	Place slides in plastic slide holder and stretch parafilm around container.	
	<ul> <li>Core and clot should be in separate formalin jars, with parafilm stretched around lids.</li> </ul>	
	To avoid formalin contamination, slide carriers must not have been previously used to carry fixed slides.	
	Place slide carriers in a separate bag and apart from any formalin-fixed biopsy specimens during transport.	