

Microsatellite Instability, Tumor

Test ID: TMSI

Explanation: Correction — Specimen Requirements

Cytology slides have been removed from the Specimen Required section. They were inadvertently listed in the September 9, 2025 Test Change update.

Current Specimen Required

This assay requires at least 40% tumor nuclei for endometrial specimens and at least 20% tumor nuclei for colorectal specimens.

- Preferred amount of tumor area with sufficient percent tumor nuclei: tissue 72 mm(2)
- Minimum amount of tumor area: 18 mm(2)
- These amounts are cumulative over up to 10 unstained slides and must have adequate percent tumor nuclei.
- Tissue fixation: formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded, non-decalcified

Preferred: Submit 3, if available, or 2 of the following specimens.

Acceptable: Submit **at least one** of the following specimens.

Specimen Type: Tissue block

Collection Instructions: Submit a formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue block with acceptable amount of tumor tissue.

Specimen Type: Tissue slide

Slides: 1 Hematoxylin and eosin-stained and 10 unstained

Collection Instructions:

Submit the following slides:

1 slide stained with hematoxylin and eosin

AND

10 unstained, nonbaked slides with 5-micron thick sections of the tumor tissue.

Note: The total amount of required tumor nuclei can be obtained by scraping up to 10 slides from the same block.

New Specimen Required

This assay requires at least 40% tumor nuclei for endometrial specimens and at least 20% tumor nuclei for colorectal specimens.

- Preferred amount of tumor area with sufficient percent tumor nuclei: tissue 72 mm(2)
- Minimum amount of tumor area: 18 mm(2)
- These amounts are cumulative over up to 10 unstained slides and must have adequate percent tumor nuclei.
- Tissue fixation: formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded, non-decalcified

Preferred: Submit 2, if available, of the following specimens.

Acceptable: Submit at least one of the following specimens.

Specimen Type: Tissue block

Collection Instructions: Submit a formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue block with acceptable amount of tumor tissue.

Specimen Type: Tissue slide

Slides: 1 Hematoxylin and eosin-stained and 10 unstained

Collection Instructions:

Submit the followings slides:

1 Slide stained with hematoxylin and eosin

AND

10 Unstained, nonbaked slides with 5-micron thick sections of the tumor tissue.

Note: The total amount of required tumor nuclei can be obtained by scraping up to 10 slides from the same block.

Additional Information: Unused unstained slides will not be returned.

Specimen Type: Cytology slide (direct smears or ThinPrep)

Slides: 1 to 3 Slides

Collection Instructions: Submit 1 to 3 slides stained and coverslipped with a total of 5000 nucleated cells (preferred), or at least 3000 nucleated cells (minimum).

Note: Glass coverslips are preferred; plastic coverslips are acceptable but will result in longer turnaround times.

Additional Information: Cytology slides will not be returned. An image of the slides will be stored per regulatory requirements.

Additional Information: Unused unstained slides will not be returned.

Questions

Contact Michelle Rath, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.