

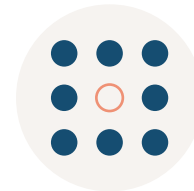
Specimen Considerations: Culturing Skin Fibroblasts

GENEDX CAN HELP IF DNA FROM FIBROBLASTS IS INDICATED

DNA from cultured skin fibroblasts is recommended for genetic testing in patients who had an allogeneic bone marrow/stem cell transplantation. Additionally, DNA from fibroblasts is preferred in patients diagnosed with certain hematologic diseases, especially active marrow or blood-based diseases. This is because leukocytes may have acquired somatic mutations that can impact the results of genetic testing that uses DNA from peripheral blood, oral rinse, and buccal specimens.

WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU

to call us toll-free at **(888) 729-1206** or **(301) 519-2100**, or email us at **zebras@genedx.com** before submitting a specimen if your patient has a history of a hematologic disorder not specified on this handout and/or if there are questions about the patient's specific diagnosis or sample collection.



GeneDx can culture fibroblasts from a skin biopsy



GeneDx can ship a skin punch biopsy kit for sample collection



Skin punch biopsy kits contain detailed instructions on collection, specimen handling, and shipping

*There may be a charge for cell culturing, which can be billed to insurance



WHEN ARE FIBROBLAST SPECIMENS PREFERRED ?

DNA from cultured skin fibroblasts are required for patients who had an allogeneic bone marrow/stem cell transplantation, as all of the patient's leukocytes will be donor derived. Cultured skin fibroblasts are recommended for patients with, but not limited to, the following clinically active disease states:

Chronic

- Chronic leukemias such as CLL (chronic lymphocytic leukemia), mycosis fungoides/Sezary syndrome, or other mature B or T-cell neoplasms demonstrating peripheral blood involvement
- Myelodysplastic syndromes
- Non-CML (chronic myeloid leukemia) myeloproliferative neoplasms such as primary myelofibrosis, polycythemia vera, and essential thrombocythemia
- Chronic myeloid leukemia in clinically active chronic, accelerated, or blast crisis phase

Acute

- Acute leukemias

WHEN ARE OTHER SPECIMENS ACCEPTABLE?

Blood, buccal, and other specimens are acceptable for patients currently in clinical and molecular remission of the following diseases:

- Acute leukemia
- Chronic Myeloid Leukemia

Blood, oral rinse, and buccal specimens are generally acceptable for patients with hematologic diseases that do not typically infiltrate the peripheral blood. Such disorders include, but are not limited to, the following active disease states:

- Hodgkin lymphoma
- Multiple myeloma
- Common forms of non-Hodgkin lymphoma such as follicular lymphoma and diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. Occasionally, peripheral blood involvement by non-Hodgkin lymphoma may be seen as a leukemic component of disease, and cultured skin fibroblasts would be recommended in these rare instances, when noted.

Questions or concerns?

Our team is only a phone call or an email away to assist you. We strongly encourage you to call us toll-free at **(888) 729-1206** or **(301) 519-2100**, or email us at **zebras@genedx.com**.



Please visit **www.genedx.com/specimen-requirements** for detailed information on collection and handling of specific specimen types.