

## GENEDX CAN HELP IF FIBROBLASTS ARE INDICATED\*

GeneDx can culture fibroblasts from a skin biopsy



GeneDx can ship a fibroblast specimen kit for skin biopsy collection



Fibroblast kits contain detailed instructions on collection, specimen handling, and shipping



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

Cultured skin fibroblasts are preferred for genetic testing in patients diagnosed with certain hematologic diseases, as acquired somatic mutations may be harbored among peripheral blood leukocytes (lymphocytes and granulocytes). Leukocytes are also normally abundant in saliva, and both oral rinse and buccal specimens are therefore not recommended for individuals with certain hematologic conditions (particularly patients with active marrow or blood-based disease).

We strongly encourage you to call us toll-free at 888-729-1206 or 301-519-2100, or email us at [zebras@genedx.com](mailto:zebras@genedx.com) before submitting a specimen if your patient has a history of a hematologic disorder not specified below and/or if there are questions about the patient's specific diagnosis or sample collection.

## WHEN ARE FIBROBLAST SPECIMENS PREFERRED ?

Cultured fibroblasts are recommended for patients who had an allogenic bone marrow/stem cell transplantation, as all of the patient's leukocytes will be donor derived. Cultured skin fibroblasts would be preferred 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 NON-FIBROBLAST SPECIMENS ACCEPTABLE?

Blood, oral rinse, and buccal 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 preferable 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](mailto:zebras@genedx.com).

Please visit [www.genedx.com/specimen-requirements](http://www.genedx.com/specimen-requirements) for detailed information on collection and handling of specific specimen types.