

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY OF WERNER SYNDROME AND OTHER PROGEROID SYNDROMES

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY,
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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SHIPPING SKIN FIBROBLAST BIOPSY

NOTE: Whenever feasible, we can assist with arrangements for personal delivery by a member of our staff or of the submitting physician's staff.

Method of Biopsy (Sterile Techniques)

The preferred site is from the medial aspect of the mid-upper arm. Skin should be sterily prepared - for example, with surgical soap and water prep. followed by 70% ethanol. If iodine is used, it should be removed with 70% ethanol. A 2 mm dermatological punch biopsy (to include full thickness of dermis) will suffice, although a 4 mm punch or bilateral 2 mm punch biopsies are preferred. For the case of post-mortem specimens, 3-4 cm elliptical biopsies are desirable.

Transport Media and Packaging

Aseptically place biopsy in sterile tube with tissue culture medium (e.g., Minimal Essential Eagle's Medium or Dulbecco's Minimal Essential Medium), preferably with 27-30 mm HEPES buffer (or, if unavailable, well-gassed sodium bicarbonate buffer) and 200 units/ml penicillin + 200 mg/ml streptomycin. Because of U.S. Customs regulations, animal sera of foreign origin should not be used in the tissue culture medium. Fill tube completely, cap tightly, and wrap top with tape to secure cap. Double bag in plastic for shipping. *Our laboratory can provide suitable pre-addressed packages containing the appropriate transport media.*

Carrier

Federal Express or DHL will pick up samples directly from any clinic. Third party billing address: University of Washington, Purchasing Department ND-10, Seattle, WA, USA 98105. Charge to **Federal Express account number 237162609, internal billing 62-5429**. For DHL shipments, receipts are needed for reimbursement.

Notification

It is important that we are able to follow the shipment so we can guarantee the timely arrival of this valuable and fragile material. Please communicate the airbill number and date of shipment as soon as possible to George Martin, Junko Oshima, or Nancy Hanson. Fax number 206-685-8356, phone number 206-543-5088 in Seattle. Collect calls will be accepted.

Package Markings

Medical research, please rush

Do not freeze

Customs: Human Skin Samples for Diagnostic Purposes

Non-Infectious

No Monetary Value

EIN #916001537

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