

Body Fluid Collection Chart - Calgary

Fluid Type	Test	Requisition/ Testing Lab	Volume & Container	Notes	Additional Information
Amniotic		Calgary Lab Acute Care			APL Test Directory for collection guidelines
Dialysate	Cell count	Calgary Lab Acute Care	3-5 mL in lavender top spray coated EDTA tube	DO NOT send large volumes. MUST NOT be clotted.	APL Test Directory or contact CLS Hematology Lab
Pleural	pH and glucose	Calgary Lab Acute Care	1.5 mL of pleural fluid collected anaerobically in balanced heparinized blood gas syringe		APL Test Directory
Pleural Peritoneal Synovial	Cell count Differential	Calgary Lab Acute Care	4 mL in lavender top spray coated EDTA tube or dark green top sodium heparin tube	Place fluid immediately into tubes after collection; mix well	APL Test Directory or contact Hematology Lab
Pleural Peritoneal	Glucose LD Total Protein	Calgary Lab Acute Care	0.5 – 1 mL in gold top SST or light green (mint) top PST tube		APL Test Directory or contact Chemistry at DSC, ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH or SHC
Peritoneal Pericardial	Hgb, HCT	Calgary Lab Acute Care	3-5 mL in lavender top spray coated EDTA tube		APL Test Directory or contact Hematology Lab
Synovial	Glucose Protein	Calgary Lab Acute Care	0.5 mL in gold top SST or light green (mint) top PST tube		APL Test Directory or contact Chemistry at DSC, ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH or SHC
Synovial	Crystals	Chemistry at FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC & DSC Hematology	Preferred: 4 mL dark green top sodium heparin tube, not PST Also acceptable: - sterile container (no additive) - red top tube - lavender top spray coated EDTA tube	Place fluid into sodium heparin tube immediately after collection; mix 6-8 times	APL Test Directory or contact Chemistry at FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC or DSC Hematology
Non-Synovial Fluids	Crystals	DSC Hematology		Specimen suitability will be assessed by a pathologist and either	

				reported or cancelled	
All	Aerobic Culture: bacterial, candida (yeast), fungal	Calgary Lab Microbiology	Volumes dependent on fluid type	DO NOT send swabs. Send large volumes (up to 80 mLs) of fluid in sterile screw cap containers. Dialysate fluid can be submitted in FAN bottles. Anticoagulants are not acceptable.	APL Test Directory or contact Microbiology Help Desk 403-770-3646
All	Anaerobic culture, includes aerobic culture	Calgary Lab Microbiology	Anaerobic transport media (PRAS) or sterile screw cap container	DO NOT use swab. Inject fluid via rubber septum into anaerobic media. Anticoagulants are unacceptable.	APL Test Directory or contact Microbiology Help Desk 403-770-3646
All	Cytopathology	APL Cytopathology	Fresh fluid in sterile laboratory specimen container		Contact APL Lab Information Centre at 403-770-3600
Fine Needle Aspirate FNA	Cytopathology	APL Cytopathology	CytoLyt® container		Contact APL Lab Information Centre at 403-770-3600
All, FNA		Calgary Lab Flow Cytometry	10-20 mL	DO NOT put into cytology fixative. FNA must be in RPMI/TTM solution.	Calgary Lab Information Centre 403-770-3600
Fluid (other than CSF, pleural, stool, urine)	pH	Calgary Lab Acute Care Chemistry at ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC	1 mL collected anaerobically into 1 x 5 mL red top tube or dark green sodium heparin tube		APL Test Directory or contact Chemistry – ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH