

**Attachments****LEISHMANIA SPECIMEN COLLECTION – INSTRUCTIONS****Media**

- Store media in the refrigerator at 4<sup>0</sup> C until used
- Prior to inoculation, bring media to room temperature (**IMPORTANT STEP**)

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIMEN COLLECTION:****Incision scrapings/biopsy technique**

- Clean lesion thoroughly with 70% alcohol
- Make a slit in the border of the ulcer perpendicular to the ulcer
- Remove blood with sterile gauze, collect material from the inside walls of the slit using a scraping motion.

*Note: Local anesthesia may be used to reduce discomfort (the test will NOT be affected)*

- Smear material on glass slides for direct staining (three or more preferred)
- Collect a separate portion of scrapings (as above) or a biopsy from the same site using a separate scalpel blade
- Place collected material in the vial of culture media submitted

**Alternative technique: Fine needle aspiration**

- Clean lesion thoroughly with 70% alcohol
- Use a sterile syringe with sterile buffered saline (0.1mL) and a 26 gauge needle. Insert into the outer border of the lesion and rotate several (3-5) times.
- Aspirate tissue fluid into the needle
- Smear material on glass slides for direct staining (three or more preferred)
- Using a fresh needle, inoculate the remaining portion of the specimen in the vial of culture media submitted

*Keep inoculated media at room temperature at all times!!*

**Note:** Forward the specimen to the laboratory as soon as possible with a note “Keep at room temperature. Forward to ProvLab, attn: Dr. Kowalewska / Parasitology Bench ASAP”

**If problems/questions arise, page Parasitology Program Lead or MOC @780-407-8822 (outside hospital) or 780-407-6191 (inside hospital).**