

Instructions for Preserving Tissue for DNA Microarray Analysis (Gene Expression)

Tissue handling protocol (for frozen tissue):

- Flash freeze tumor sample (at least 2 grams of tissue or more if possible) cut into pieces no larger than 0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5 cm within 30 minutes of removal from the patient. Place tumor directly into liquid nitrogen and then place in vial and store on dry ice or in -80°C freezer (Do not place closed vial in liquid nitrogen!). Alternatively, place fresh tumor into vial and then place vial directly on dry ice. DO NOT use accompanying media or substrate (eg. no OCT).
- Take appropriate measure to ensure that the frozen sample does not thaw prior to transport.
- Pack the tissue sample vial in a Styrofoam container accompanied by at least 5 lbs of dry ice. (If possible, place sample vial in protective tube or plastic bag that will not tear under the weight of the dry ice)
- Seal the container and the crack between the lid and bottom with packaging tape (dry ice deteriorates rapidly with exposure to air).
- Place Styrofoam container in a cardboard box for shipping.
- Send samples overnight via Federal Express so packages may be tracked. Please indicate that you are shipping biohazard materials and dry ice. (If sending international, customs will sometimes open these packages, please put a note inside to refill with dry ice if package is inspected).

Paraffin embedded tissue in both blocks and slides can be sent in a padded envelope and does not need to be sent on ice. This tissue can only be used for DNA analysis and not RNA expression profiling.

Please send all samples (along with signed consent form from atacfund.org and any available clinical history) to:

Kimberly Bussey, Ph.D.
TGen 5th Floor
445 North 5th Street
Phoenix AZ 85004
602-343-8817
kbussey@tgen.org

Please email or phone Dr. Bussey with Federal Express tracking number when package is sent.