IHC Specimen Instructions

Foundation Medicine® offers immunohistochemistry (IHC) testing for PD-L1 as a supplemental test to our portfolio of comprehensive next-generation sequencing (NGS) tests. Please indicate if you would like PD-L1 testing by making a selection on our test requisition form, which can be submitted online or by fax. For more information, please visit www.foundationmedicine.com/genomic-testing/order.

Acceptable Samples

- Formalin-fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) specimens, including cut slide specimens.
- Use standard fixation methods to preserve nucleic acid integrity. 10% neutral-buffered formalin for 6–72 hours is industry standard. DO NOT use other fixatives (Bouins, B5, AZF, Holland’s).
- Do not decalcify.

SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

1. When feasible, please send the block + 1 H&E slide.*

OR

4 unstained slides (positively charged and unbaked at 4–5 microns thick) + 1 H&E slide.†

* When submitting an order for both NGS and IHC testing, only one FFPE block is needed, but note that sample size requirements for NGS testing must be fulfilled in addition to IHC sample requirements.

† For smaller samples, providing the original H&E will preserve material for testing.

TUMOR CELL CONTENT

2. MINIMUM: 100 tumor cells‡
   
   Note: Heavily pigmented melanoma samples are not acceptable.

   † Viable and intact tumor cells; degenerating, necrotic, crushed and/or cauterized cells cannot be counted towards 100 tumor cell requirement.

Shipping Instructions

1. Include the sample for IHC testing (along with additional sample needed for Foundation Medicine testing) in the appropriate shipping kit. Be sure the test requisition form, pathology report, and insurance information are also included.

2. Place the specimen shipping kit (including samples and paperwork) into the provided FedEx shipping pack, first ensuring that primary specimen containers (e.g. blocks, slides) are labeled with two patient-specific identifiers. Seal the shipping pack.

3. Complete the pre-printed shipping labels (if necessary) and apply to shipping pack.

4. Call 800.463.3339 to request a pick-up or drop the package at your site’s designated FedEx pick-up location and ship sealed shipping pack to the address indicated on the primary test’s Specimen Instructions.

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