

Information for physicians

Type of sample	Question	Sample collection	Anticoagulant or fixative	Amount	Transportation	Possible investigation period after sample collection
Bone marrow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hematogenous spread of epithelial tumors by detection of disseminated tumor cells Detection of copy number alterations (CNA analysis) 	Draw 5 ml of heparin (25,000 IU) into a 10 ml collection syringe before aspirating bone marrow into remaining syringe volume. Invert syringe carefully at least 10 times to ensure adequate heparin distribution.	Heparin	max. 20 ml	ambient temperature, immediate delivery after collection (<60 min)	same day
Lymph nodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lymphogenous spread of epithelial and melanocytic tumors by detection of disseminated tumor cells Detection of copy number alterations (CNA analysis) Detection of a BRAFV600E/K mutation 	Storage and transport of lymph nodes in NaCl	---	1-6 lymph nodes	ambient temperature, immediate delivery after excision (<60 min)	same day
Blood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detection of circulating tumor cells of epithelial tumors (CellSearch®), by request also with examination for HER2/neu expression Detection of copy number alterations (CNA analysis) 	Please contact the laboratory for collection tubes: SCP-Lab@ukr.de see below	Cell Save Preservative	7,5 ml	ambient temperature, delivery on the same or next day at the latest	96 hours
CSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detection of circulating tumor cells of epithelial and melanocytic tumors, by request also with examination for HER2/neu expression Detection of copy number alterations (CNA analysis) 	---	native	≥ 3 ml	ambient temperature, immediate delivery after collection (<60 min)	same day
Malignant effusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immunocytological quantification Detection of copy number alterations (CNA analysis) Detection of a BRAFV600E/K mutation 	---	native	≥ 10 ml	ambient temperature, immediate delivery after collection (<60 min)	same day

Note: Due to supply issues with a reagent, the CNA analysis will likely not be available until early July 2025.