

**CYTOGENETICS UNIT
ST. JAMES'S HOSPITAL
LEEDS**

Information sheet for TUMOUR SAMPLES for investigation of acquired chromosomal abnormality

Types of referrals

A cytogenetic service is provided for the following referrals:

- all diagnostic paediatric (ie aged 16 and under) tumours or suspected tumours
- follow-up (ie relapsed) paediatric tumours if applicable
- selected adult tumours, by agreement with the laboratory

Sample Required

- Open biopsies from the tumour itself are preferred.
- The efficacy of true cut biopsies and fine needle aspirates is still under evaluation, but these will also be accepted, either if no open biopsy is available or alongside an open biopsy for comparative reasons.
- Where appropriate, other fluids where tumour infiltration is known or suspected may be sent. These include pleural effusions, cerebro-spinal fluid, and cystic fluid.
- Where infiltration into blood or bone marrow is known or suspected, such samples will be dealt with by the Haematology section of the laboratory.
- Paraffin sections can be used if a specific chromosome abnormality detectable by FISH studies is suspected. Sections should be 4-6µm thick on positively charged slides.

