

# Recommendations for Harvesting and Shipping Live Pet Tissue without Kit

**Step 1:** Obtain three or more sterile bottles for preserving and transporting the tissue samples. Bottles may be plastic or glass approximately 10 ml or 1 oz. size. Bottle size may vary if tissue is submerged in saline solution. Each bottle needs a screw cap that can be securely tightened to prevent leakage.

**Step 2:** Prepare the transport media from standard 0.9% isotonic saline solution.

**Step 3:** Choose a site on the scruff of the neck or other area where the skin is relatively loose.

**Step 4:** Closely shave the appropriate area; remove as much hair as possible to minimize contamination.

**Step 5:** Inject Lidocaine subcutaneously in the center of the sterile area to accommodate two (4 to 6 mm) skin punches or another surgical instrument.

**Step 6:** Perform sterile skin prep.

**Step 7:** Obtain one full-thickness skin biopsy. Try to maximize the amount of skin tissue and minimize the amount of fatty and other non-skin tissue. Suture after collecting if needed.

**Step 8:** Place the tissue biopsy in the first bottle for shipping. Repeat the procedure. Collect at least two samples.

**Step 9:** Secure the lids on the medium bottles or vials firmly.

**Step 10:** Label bottles with owner and pet's names, species and date collected.

**Step 11:** Procure an insulated container such as a Styrofoam box and one or more ice gel packs for shipping tissue.

**Step 12:** Place the two medium bottles containing the skin tissue samples in the insulated box with the ice gel pack(s). Package needs to maintain temperatures between 35° and 45° F (2° to 5° C) for 72 hours. **Make** certain the ice gel pack is frozen. **Do not use dry ice.**

**Step 13:** Place corrugated cardboard or Styrofoam layer above ice pack to avoid direct contact between tissue and ice pack.

**Step 14:** Place the insulated container in the cardboard box as required by courier companies.

**Step 15:** Immediately transport the package by priority overnight courier to:

Dr. Raymond Page  
PerPETuate, Inc.  
Life Science and Bioengineering Building/WP!  
60 Prescott Street  
Worcester, MA 01605  
USA  
508-641-7775

**Step 16:** Please provide PERPETUATE the courier's tracking number by email [info@perpetuatelab.com](mailto:info@perpetuatelab.com) or telephone (508-641-7775).



Ice Gel Packs



Styrofoam and  
Cardboard Boxes



Insulated Cooler



Ice Gel Packs