

METABOLIC SKIN BIOPSY PROTOCOL for fibroblast cultures
ADULT METABOLIC DISEASES CLINIC

CONTACTS:

BCCH: Dr. Hilary Vallance, Biochemical Genetics Lab Director, phone 875-2551
Bee Toh, Biochemical Genetics Lab Supervisor, phone 875-2345 ext.7394

BEFORE BIOPSY:

1. Check skin biopsy supplies on silver cart. If necessary, order replacement equipment from E-Pro:
2. Order lidocaine 2% without epinephrine- single use vials from CP pharmacy (send stores requisition to pharmacy) as needed
3. Obtain aliquots of minimum essential media (MEM) with 12.5% fetal calf serum and antibiotic from BC Children's Biochemical Genetics Lab (Bee Toh). Keep them in the diabetes centre freezer in the Tupperware container. Remove from freezer one hour pre-procedure to thaw. *(If the sample is for NCL, use glutaraldehyde aliquots, available from Maureen Roy in the muscle histochemistry lab, local 62754)*
4. If you need a minor suture removal kit (sterile forceps, scissors and cup), fill out an **SSD loan stock requisition** and send it to SSD. They will deliver them to our clinic.
5. Check for a recent platelet count for the patient and order one if necessary.
6. Fill out a standard outpatient requisition with following information: "skin biopsy to be sent to BC Children's hospital for fibroblast culture—attention Dr. Hilary Vallance. Keep at room temperature".
7. Set out pre-printed standard outpatient requisition, needles, skin biopsy punch, gauze, gloves, lidocaine, media, chlorhexidine swab sticks, minor suture removal kit, bandaid on a 'blue pad' in exam room.
8. Patient teaching on biopsy and aftercare.
9. have patient sign consent for procedure and bill 73

**February 2005: Metabolic skin biopsies were deemed a delegated medical act. The procedure can be delegated to metabolic clinic RNs by Dr. Sandra Sirrs according to the following conditions:*

- Dr. Sirrs must ensure that the required knowledge and skill of performing skin biopsies is appropriately taught to the RN*
- the RN must be certified by Dr. Sirrs prior to performing a skin biopsy*
- only RNs who have had the instruction with sufficient practice to become competent are to perform skin biopsies*

Specimen transport:

1. Call or email Bee Toh at BCCH, BGL to let her know the specimen will be arriving. Ask her to email confirmation that it has arrived.
2. Place the specimen in a paper bag with the requisition and clearly label on the bag:
 - for **CPT 1,2 testing and NPC**: specimen to be sent to BCCH via intra-hospital courier to the BGL lab attn: Dr. Vallance, keep at **room temperature**.
 - for **NCL**: VGH anatomical pathology, keep refrigerated
3. Take the specimen to Rm. 1302, Jim Pattison Pavilion if it is to go to BCCH, and take it to Anatomical Pathology if it is for NCL testing.
4. Wrap up minor suture removal tray and place it in a paper bag, clearly labelled to be returned to contaminated SSD. Place in 'out box' in fax room. Call SSD at 67136 for pickup.

Follow up:

1. Apply for funding.
2. Replace supplies as needed.