Mailing Samples for Karyotyping

Last updated on September 21, 2026

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

- Samples can be sent either as live cultures or suspension cultures
- Fill out a Test Requisition Form for each sample you are submitting. Test Requisition Forms can be found on our website
- Please note that Cell Line Genetics cannot receive samples on Saturday or Sunday

LIVE CULTURES

- Passage the cells to a labeled T-25 culture flask as you would under normal conditions. Seed the culture with 600,000 to 800,000 cells. If you are growing cells on a feeder layer or an extracellular matrix, make sure that it is fresh
- Feed the culture as usual. The culture is usually ready to mail two to four days after subculturing, when 70% confluent with large colonies that can be seen macroscopically. The cultures must be actively dividing (in log phase) when you mail them. See Appendix A for example images
- Fill the culture flask to the top with complete media, tighten the cap, and seal with Parafilm. Label the flask with a unique cell line identifier. Ensure that the sample names perfectly match on the flask and Test Requisition Form
- Place 25mL of complete media in a 50mL tube and seal with Parafilm. Addition of serum at 10-15% in the media may help in the reduction of cells that lift during shipping
- Wrap the T-25 flask and media tube in absorbent paper toweling and place them in separate leak proof plastic bags. Wrap each bag in bubble wrap
- Place culture flasks, media tubes, and printed Test Requisition Forms (one per sample) in a small Styrofoam box. Fill the box with bubble wrap or additional absorbent material so that the contents will not move during shipping
- During the winter months, addition of temperature control packaging (ex – Saf-T-Pak Phase Change Material) can help reduce the chance the culture is exposed to low temperatures
- Place the Styrofoam box inside a slightly larger cardboard box and seal with packing tape. **Ship at room temperature. Do not ship on ice or cold packs**
- Ship the package via next-day delivery service to Cell Line Genetics at the mailing address listed on the next page
- Contact Cell Line Genetics using the email address listed on the next page to inform us of the expected delivery date and to provide a tracking number if possible

SUSPENSION CULTURES- Blood / Lymphocytes Only

- Transfer 500,000 to 700,000 actively dividing cells to a labeled 15mL tube. To obtain metaphase chromosomes used in karyotyping, all cultures must be actively dividing (in log phase) when you ship them
- Fill tube to the top with prewarmed complete media, tighten the cap, and seal with Parafilm. Label the tube with a unique cell line identifier. Ensure that the sample names perfectly match on the tube and Test Requisition Form
- Wrap the tubes in absorbent paper toweling and place each sample in separate leak proof plastic bags. Wrap each bag in bubble wrap
- Place cultures and Test Requisition Forms (one per sample) in a small Styrofoam box. Fill the box with bubble wrap or additional absorbent material so that the contents will not move during shipping
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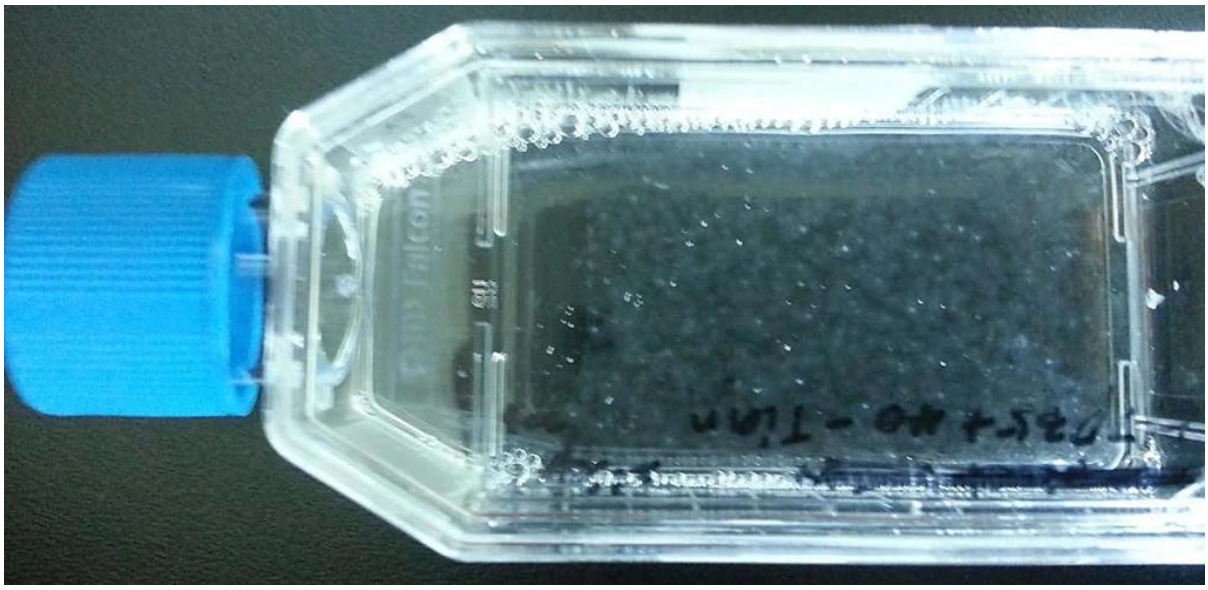
CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address
Cell Line Genetics
510 Charmany Drive, Suite 254
Madison, WI 53719

Contact Information
Phone: (608) 441-8163
Fax: (608) 441-8162
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Appendix A – Example Images

iPSC culture in optimal condition for submission – pinpoint sized colonies visible by the naked eye.



Fibroblast culture in optimal condition for submission – 70% confluent, actively dividing.

