

Specimen Source	Collection Media	Special Instructions
Tissue (skin, bone, soft tissue)	Formalin container	Adequate for histology including fungal stain
	100% Alcohol container	Adequate for histology and crystal (gout) analysis
	Culture swab	For culture only
Nail	Dry nail bag	Adequate for both fungal culture and histology with fungal stain (PAS)
	Formalin	Adequate for histology with fungal stain (PAS)
Joint fluid	Lavender top tube	Adequate for crystal analysis (gout) and cell count
	Culture tube	If culture desired *For specimens requiring culture and crystal analysis, split specimen into lavender and culture tubes
Non-Joint fluid	Cytolyt container	Adequate for cytology
	Lavender top tube	If crystal (gout) analysis desired
	Culture tube	If culture desired
Microbiology cultures	Swab or culture tube	For culture only

*For questions, please call TOPA Diagnostics at 805-373-8582