
Lab Dept: **Anatomic Pathology**

Test Name: **FIBROBLAST CULTURE FOR BIOCHEMICAL OR MOLECULAR TESTING**

General Information

Lab Order Codes: CULFB

Synonyms: Fibroblast culture for genetic testing; Saving Cells for Possible Genetic Testing

CPT Codes: 88233 – Fibroblast Culture
88240 – Cryopreservation for Biochemical Studies

Test Includes: This processing test is for culturing chorionic villi, products of conception, skin fibroblasts, or other biopsy specimens for biochemical or molecular genetic studies. No analysis or interpretation of results is performed.

When this test is ordered, cryopreservation will be performed. For multiple assays on a patient utilizing the ordered fibroblast culture, only one culture is required regardless of the number of assays ordered. Once confluent flasks are established, the cultures are sent to other laboratories, either within Mayo Clinic Laboratories or to external sites, based on the specific testing requested.

Logistics

Test indications: Cultured cells may be used to perform a wide range of laboratory tests. Prior to testing, the tissue may need to be cultured to obtain adequate numbers of cells.

Lab Testing Sections: Anatomic Pathology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Clinic Laboratories – Mayo Test: CULFB

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 41 – 42 days

Special Instructions: [Final Disposition of Fetal/Stillborn Remains](#)

Specimen

Specimen Type:	Tissue (Autopsy, Chorionic villi, Products of conception or stillbirth, Cultured fibroblasts, or Skin biopsy)
Container:	Required Container Types
Draw Volume:	Required Specimen Volume
Processed Volume:	N/A
Collection:	Collection Instructions
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Store and ship refrigerated. Advise express mail or equivalent when shipping.
Patient Preparation:	N/A
Sample Rejection:	All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Interpretive

Reference Range:	N/A
Critical Values:	N/A
Limitations:	<p>Interfering factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Inadequate amount of specimen may not permit adequate analysis -Exposure of the specimen to temperature extremes (freezing or greater than 30 degrees C) may kill cells and interfere with attempts to culture cells -Improper packaging may result in broken, leaky, and contaminated specimens during transport -Transport time should not exceed 2 days -Contamination by maternal cells may interfere with attempts to culture cells and may cause interpretive problems <p>Lack of viable cells:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bacterial contamination -Failure to transport tissue in an appropriate media -Excessive transport time -Exposure of the specimen to temperature extremes (freezing or >30 degrees C) -Improper packaging may result in broken or leaky specimen containers or contamination of specimens during transport
Methodology:	Cell Culture
References:	Mayo Clinic Laboratories (September 2022)