To send samples:

It is not necessary to notify the cytogenetics laboratory ahead of your plans to send a sample for cytogenetics studies unless you require the sample to be picked up by our courier. Samples are accepted daily and are accepted on Saturdays when prearranged. Any other special arrangements should be made with the lab prior to collection if this is not possible.

1. All samples sent for genetic studies (chromosome, DNA or biochemical studies) need to be collected in a sterile manner and placed immediately into transport tissue culture media obtained from the genetics lab. If transport media is not available, a sterile buffer can be used only if sample will exposed for a short period of time (2-4 hours).

   The sample should be kept at room temperature at all times. If the sample is collected on a weekend, please refrigerate overnight (DO NOT FREEZE).

2. Label the tube with the patient's name, birthdate and medical record # if available.

3. Tissue sample in order of preference is as follows: lung; fascia; umbilical cord; placenta. If blood is available, please aspirate also into a green top sodium heparin tube. The sample(s) should be kept at room temperature at all times.

4. Please fill out the genetic testing referral form listing the patient's name, hospital number, physician(s) and billing information. Or alternatively include your hospital information concerning the patient and reason for request. The referring hospital/clinic will be billed for these studies.

5. Samples can be sent by overnight express delivery, or notify Medical Genetics at 716-4321 to make arrangements for pick up and transportation of the sample to the laboratory within 24 hours.

*Note: All specimens sent by mail must be packaged properly to meet OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standards, i.e. a triple containment system that meets federal regulations (42 CFR, Part 72).

Send sample to: Dr. Mark Pettenati / Will Stewart
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Cytogenetics Laboratory
Hanes Building G-11
Medical Center Blvd.
Winston-Salem NC 27157
(336) 716-4321/2553

To Have Our Courier Pick Up The Sample: Call 336-716-4321 by 2 PM.
If you have any questions or problems, please feel free to call us at any time.