Prenatal Sampling & Shipping

SUCCESSFULLY DISPATCHING YOUR PRENATAL SAMPLES

Prenatal samples are extremly delicate, and therefore require attention during sampling and transport to ensure sucessful lab analysis. Please be aware that **PRIOR** to sending a prenatal sample, an approval of prenatal acceptance by CENTOGENE customer support is needed.

FOR COMMON OBSTACLES YOU MAY FACE, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING TROUBLE SHOOT AS GUIDANCE:

APPROPRIATE TEMPERATURE FOR SAMPLES

Transport samples at room temperature.
Never allow samples to freeze or be exposed to temperatures below 4°C. Cooling can cause cell damage and hinder culturing.

NOT SAFE SEALED

Samples must be delivered in safe sealed falcon tubes (with Parafilm) to minimize the risk of bacterial or fungi contamination.

AMNIOTIC FLUID NOT IN FALCON TUBE

Amniotic Fluid should always be sent in safe sealed falcon tubes.

BLOOD CONTAMINATION OF SAMPLE / MEDIUM

Amniotic fluid samples must be clear and without visible blood contamination. Chorionic villi must be clean and white; no maternal material should be present (i.e. no placenta). Residual maternal material increases the risk of compromised results.

MEDIUM IS CLOUDY / CONTAINS SUPERNATANT

Cloudy medium and the presence of supernatant respectively hint at bacterial or fungal contamination.
Contamination can reduce sample integrity and lead to analytical problems.

CELL CULTURE WITH LOW CONFLUENCY

At time of delivery, the culture must be 80 – 90 % confluent.

INSUFFICIENT SAMPLE OR INSUFFICIENT QUALITY OF SAMPLE FOR DIRECT ANALYSIS

If the sample provided does not contain enough material or is of poor quality, a culture will be done to obtain a sufficient amount of DNA for analysis. Due to culturing, the turnaround time will be extended by approx. 10 to 15 days.

CHORIONIC VILLUS SAMPLE NOT IN RPMI-MEDIUM

Tissue samples must be transported in a minimum of 35 ml of RPMI medium with fetal calf serum.

CULTURED CELLS NOT IN CULTURE FLASK

Culture flasks (25 cm^2 minimum) are required for transport of cell cultures.
At time of delivery, the culture must be 80 – 90 % confluent.

INSUFFICIENT RPMI MEDIUM WHEN SENDING CULTURED CELLS – CONTAINER NOT COMPLETELY FILLED

RPMI medium should completely fill the culture flask or specimen container.
Cultured cells must be sent in culture flask with 35 ml of RPMI medium with fetal calf serum.

Logistics

PLANNING

- **72 hrs is the maximum time window from sampling to arrival at CENTOGENE Germany.** Beyond this 72hr window, we cannot guarantee the quality of the sample being adequate for analysis.
- **Ensure you have the materials for packing available** (see "Packing").
- **Please plan shipping accordingly**, for further information please see 'Shipping'.
- **Samples must arrive by Friday at the latest.** Saturday deliveries are available only by special arrangement as we must process samples upon arrival. Please note the availability for delivery below* :

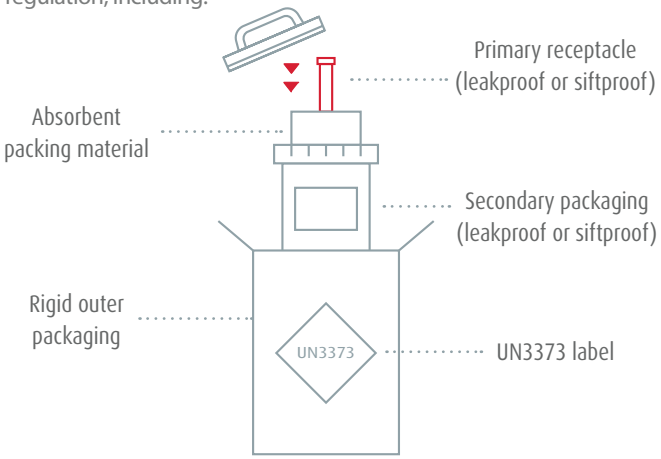
MONDAY – FRIDAY:	7.00 A.M. – 8.00 P.M.
SATURDAY:	7.00 A.M. – 3.30 P.M.
SUNDAY:	CLOSED

- **Choose a qualified logistics provider** and consult the provider in advance regarding transport time, temperature and specifics related to the sample type.
- **Arrange a pickup appointment** with your logistics provider for the day of sampling.

*Please also consider the official bank holidays in Germany.

PACKING

Packaging for your sample in accordance with IATA PI650 regulation, including:



Please contact your logistics provider for further details.

SHIPPING

Make formal 'declaration of content' for liquid human samples with your logistics provider.

Send notification of both tracking number and name of logistics provider to **logistics@centogene.com** immediatly after shipping.

SUPPORT

We are happy to support you with the organization and tracking of shipments. Contact us for more information.

customer.support@centogene.com
+49 (0)381 80 113 - 416

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