**BONE MARROW ASPIRATE EXAMINATION**

**Orderable - DIFFBM**

**Turnaround Time:** 2 weekdays

**Alternate Name(s):**

Bone Marrow Smears  
For: a) Wright's b) Iron Stain c) Cytochemical Stains

Differential Bone Marrow

**Specimen:**

Bone marrow in K2 or K3 EDTA

**Collection Information:**

Minimum volume of bone marrow required is 1 mL.

The bone marrow collection tube is provided in a kit supplied by CSR. (It is the Wards'/Units' responsibility to stock these kits).

If "touch films" of the bone marrow have been prepared at the bedside, they are to be sent with the bone marrow aspirate to the Flow Cytometry Lab at Victoria Hospital as well.

**Reference Ranges:**

Normal marrow elements

**Interpretive Comments:**

The bone marrow report is prepared following examination of Wrights-Giemsa and Prussian Blue stained films. CBC results and possibly special cytochemical stained films also impact the interpretation.

**Special Processing:**
Films must be prepared ASAP after collection.

**Critical Information Required:**
- Clinical history
- Reason for test request

**Storage and Shipment:**

Ship sample at room temperature.

Samples collected within LHSC/SJH must be shipped within 30 minutes of collection and received for testing within 3 hours.

Referred in samples must be shipped within 30 minutes of collection and received for testing within 8 hours.