



## Protocol: Out-of-Province Genetic Testing Coordination - non-PLMS funded

### Division of Genome Diagnostics

This protocol outlines the process of coordinating clinical testing funded by sources other than the Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services (PLMS).

The Division of Genome Diagnostics provides 'shipping and handling' services only.

**\*For tests funded through PLMS Out-Of-Province/Country process, see:  
[Out-of-Province Genetic Testing Coordination - PLMS funded](#)**

**FUNDING MUST BE SECURED PRIOR TO SAMPLE COLLECTION.**

#### **STEP ONE: Obtain complete paperwork required by the Testing Laboratory.**

- a. Requisition;
- b. Consent form;
- c. Billing form, if applicable;
- d. Sample Requirements: confirm that 4 mL EDTA peripheral blood is sufficient.
  - i. For other sample sources (frozen or paraffin tissue, amniocentesis, CVS): Discuss with Division prior to arranging testing.

#### **STEP TWO: Complete the Paperwork Required by the Division to facilitate the shipment.**

1. **Division of Genome Diagnostics request for Shipment for Out-of-Province Genetic Testing Form.** Indicate funding information on the checklist on this form.
2. **The PLMS' Agreement and Consent for Out of Province testing form:**  
<http://www.phsa.ca/plms/Documents/Out-of-province-testing-consent-form.pdf>
3. **Testing Laboratory Requisition** and any associated paperwork such as billing form or consent form. Ensure all paperwork is completed in full, including Ordering Physician name and complete contact information (address and telephone number).

#### **STEP THREE: Fax completed paperwork to the Division at 604-875-2707, in the following order:**

- a. Division of Genome Diagnostics request for Shipment for Out-of-Province Genetic Testing Form.
- b. PLMS Agreement and Consent for Out of Province testing Form
- c. Testing laboratory requisition, plus billing form and consent form as applicable

#### **STEP FOUR: Arrange Sample Collection.**

1. Complete the MGL General Requisition:  
[http://genebc.ca/uploads/FORMS/CWGG\\_REQ\\_0000\\_General\\_Requisition\\_extend.pdf](http://genebc.ca/uploads/FORMS/CWGG_REQ_0000_General_Requisition_extend.pdf)  
Sample type: EDTA blood
  - ii. If > 4 mL EDTA blood required for testing, specify volume.
  - iii. Test requested: Other: [Test Name]
2. Send patient for blood collection. Collection at a health authority outpatient laboratory or specimen collection centre is recommended, as the patient may be charged for collection services at a private collection laboratory.

Upon sample receipt, the Division of Genome Diagnostics will:

- ship the entire blood sample and paperwork to the referral laboratory;
- send a letter to the referring physician, confirming the shipment, including date sent, to allow for tracking.

#### **STEP FIVE: Contact the Testing Laboratory directly for result tracking and/or report.**

## Molecular Genetics Laboratory

BC Children's Hospital & BC Women's Hospital  
 2J40 - 4500 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6H 3N1  
 Phone (604) 875-2852 • Fax (604) 875-2707  
 • [moleculargenetics@cw.bc.ca](mailto:moleculargenetics@cw.bc.ca) • [www.genebc.ca](http://www.genebc.ca)  
 • Facility Code L1050

# Request for Shipment

## Out-of-Province/Out-of-Country Genetic Testing

**To:** Molecular Genetics Laboratory (MGL)  
**Fax:** 604-875-2707  
**Phone:** 604-875-2852

**From:**

**Fax:**

**Date:**

**# Pages:**

**COMPLETE FOR EACH SAMPLE & EACH REFERRAL LABORATORY**

PRIORITY	SAMPLE TYPE	MEDICAL GENETICS ONLY:
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>STAT</b> (affects pregnancy management)  EDD: _____ DD/MMM/YY	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>BLOOD</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>TISSUE</b> ; Surgical Path #: _____  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DNA*</b> ; MGL Sample ID: _____ <small>*prior approval required, as per policy</small>	<b>CVS OR AMNIOCENTESIS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> DNA <input type="checkbox"/> Cultured <input type="checkbox"/> Uncultured* <small>*consultation required</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>ROUTINE</b>	Quantity: _____ ug OR _____ ug/ul & _____ ul	<b>SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:</b> (quantity, # flasks, etc.)  <small>_____</small>

REQUESTOR INFORMATION	PATIENT INFORMATION
Ordering Physician Last Name	Ordering Physician First Name
Contact Person (if differs from Ordering Physician)	Last Name
Contact Phone Number (if differs from above)	Personal Health Number
	Date of Birth (DD/MMM/YY)
	Gender
	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> UNK
	Referring Clinic ID

### REFERRAL LABORATORY & TEST INFORMATION

Referral Laboratory	Disorder or Test Requested
Shipping Address:	
<small>_____</small> <small>_____</small> <small>_____</small>	

CHECKLIST:	MGL USE ONLY
<input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services Agreement and Consent for Out of Province testing form  <input type="checkbox"/> Referral Lab paperwork <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Funding Details:	<b>SHIPMENT</b>  <b>LABEL</b>

CM\_PW

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## FAQs: Coordination of Out-of-Province Clinical Testing Funded by Sources Other Than PLMS

**\*For tests funded through the Provincial Laboratory Medicine Service (PLMS) Out-Of-Province/Country process, follow instructions provided by PLMS: <http://www.phsa.ca/plms/forms-test-information/out-of-province-out-of-country-test-request-forms>**

**This document provides information when coordinating clinical testing funded by sources other than PLMS. It is the responsibility of the Ordering Physician; the Division provides 'shipping and handling' services only.**

### **PROOF OF FUNDING & REQUEST FOR SHIPMENT FORM**

1. What funding documentation do I need to provide in the package of faxed paperwork?
2. Can shipment for non-clinical samples be arranged?
3. What do I do if the patient wants to pay for his/her own testing?
4. Why do I have to complete a Request for Shipment form?

### **REQUISITIONS AND BILLING FORMS**

5. Why do I have to complete a Genome Diagnostics Constitutional Genetics Laboratory Requisition AND the testing laboratory's requisition?
6. Do I need to provide the sample collection date on the testing lab requisition? How do I know when it was collected?
7. Why do I need to provide the testing facility with contact information (e.g. address, phone number, and fax number)?
8. Does the ordering physician have to sign the testing laboratory requisition?

### **SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS**

9. The patient has previously had blood drawn for testing within the Division; is there residual blood or DNA that can be sent to the testing laboratory?
10. How do I determine the testing laboratory's sample requirements?

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### **PROOF OF FUNDING & REQUEST FOR SHIPMENT FORM**

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#### **1. What funding documentation do I need to provide in the package of faxed paperwork?**

The Department provides shipping services for funded clinical testing only and cannot provide shipping services for testing that could be billed back to the Department.

Indicate the source of funding information on the Request for Shipment form.

#### **2. Can shipment for non-clinical samples be arranged?**

Requests to ship samples to research laboratories generally cannot be facilitated by the Department except in some rare circumstance of clinical / research partnership; at minimum, a patient report must be issued by the testing facility. Please contact the Molecular Geneticist on service ([MGLOnService@cw.bc.ca](mailto:MGLOnService@cw.bc.ca)) for preapproval.

### **3. What do I do if the patient wants to pay for his/her own testing?**

The Department does not coordinate out-of-province genetic testing for self-pay patients. Patients can contact the testing laboratory to explore options for collection and shipment.

### **4. Why do I have to complete a shipment request form?**

This form provides information about the test requested and testing laboratory shipping address which is required to facilitate shipment of the sample. For PLMS funded samples, this information is included in the funding letter. Additionally, the form provides information concerning sample type and urgency which aids the Division in triaging the sample once it arrives in the lab.

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## **REQUISITIONS AND BILLING FORMS**

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### **5. Why do I have to complete a Genome Diagnostics Constitutional Genetics Laboratory Requisition AND the testing laboratory's requisition?**

In order for the sample to be collected, the Genome Diagnostics Constitutional Genetics Laboratory Requisition is required. In order to ensure the appropriate test is requested, and the required clinical history is provided, the testing laboratory requisition is required. The physician requesting the test from the testing laboratory is responsible for completing all associated paperwork.

### **6. Do I need to provide the sample collection date on the testing lab requisition? How do I know when it was collected?**

No. When the Division packages the patient's sample for shipment, a label indicating the sample collection date will be placed on the testing lab requisition.

### **7. Why do I need to provide contact information to the testing facility (e.g. address, phone number, and fax number?)**

In order to ensure the final report is received by the Ordering Physician and cc Physicians, full and complete contact information must be provided to the testing facility, regardless of whether the information is requested on the form from the external laboratory. Laboratories outside of BC are not aware of local resources for obtaining this information and the Division cannot ensure up to date accurate information is provided.

- Required information includes: ordering physician name, address, phone and fax numbers; cc Physician name and address; Health records name and address; billing information.
- If necessary and as applicable, additional information can be provided in a letter that includes patient demographics (Name, PHN, DoB) attached to or in place of a testing laboratory requisition.

### **8. Does the ordering physician have to sign the testing laboratory requisition?**

If requested, then yes.

In many jurisdictions Physicians are required to sign all test orders. Many laboratories will not proceed with testing without this signature. The Division cannot comment on whether a designee would be accepted.

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## SAMPLES REQUIREMENTS

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**9. The patient has previously had blood drawn for testing within the Division; is there residual blood or DNA that can be sent to the testing laboratory?**

Generally, no. Blood is not stored by the Division, and DNA samples are disposed of according to the DNA Extraction and Retention Policy. At the time of receipt, only a sufficient amount of DNA to complete the requested clinical testing is extracted. The Division will not ship residual DNA to another laboratory unless there are exceptional circumstances; preapproval by the Molecular Geneticist On Service ([MGLOnService@cw.bc.ca](mailto:MGLOnService@cw.bc.ca)) and signed patient consent are required.

**10. How do I determine the testing laboratory's sample requirements?**

Sample requirements are provided by the testing laboratory; it is the responsibility of the ordering physician to determine the sample requirements of the testing laboratory and provide these to the collection laboratory. For sample sources other than blood (DNA, frozen or paraffin tissue, amniocentesis, CVS): Discuss with Division prior to arranging testing.