



## McClain Laboratories

# Specimen Collection Guidelines

- **Fluids, aspirates, joint aspiration**  
(e.g.: gout, digital mucous cyst):  
Place in dry urine container or red-top tube.
- **Fungal Nails, Distal Clip:**  
Submit dry in nail bag.
- **Nailbed biopsy for Melanoma**  
Fix in formalin
- **Nailbed biopsy for Pyogenic Granuloma**  
Fix in formalin
- **Nerve Fiber Density:**  
2 (2mm or 3mm) punch biopsies fix in formalin. Specimen needs to arrive in lab within 48 hours.
- **Specimens for direct immunofluorescence studies: Submit in Michel's fixative**
- **All other skin specimens:**  
Fix in formalin  
e.g.:
  - Verruca (wart)
  - R/O Carcinoma
  - Excision
  - Punch biopsy
  - Wound debridement
  - Ulcer biopsy
  - Hammertoes
  - Bunions
  - Foreign body with tissue