Maintain An Established Culture (Not Prenatal)

**Test Code:** TB  
**Turnaround time:**  
**CPT Codes:** 88233 x1

## Condition Description

Cells from many different types of solid tissues may be cultured, frozen, and stored. The establishment of a cell line may be useful for future studies. This test will produce cell cultures which can then be used for additional genetic or other analyses.

## Indications

This test is indicated for:

- the continued maintenance of cell lines for current or future testing.

## Methodology

The tissue specimen is minced or enzymatically disaggregated, treated with collagenase, and placed in a tissue culture vessel with media to establish a fibroblast culture. The cultures are sub-cultured into 1 to 3 T25 tissue culture flasks or 1 to 2 T75 tissue culture flasks and frozen for future use.

## Specimen Requirements

*Submit only 1 of the following specimen types*

### Type: Skin Biopsy

**Specimen Requirements:**  
Sterile container with EGL transport media or other sterile culture media (RPMI, Hanks Solution)  
Obtain 1-2 cm pieces of tissue from a central location rather than a distal location to enhance cell viability and growth. Place in sterile container with EGL transport media or other sterile culture media. In the absence of media, place in a sterile container with a small amount of sterile saline. Use sterile dissection (no prep) for internal tissue.  
**Tissue fixed in formalin cannot be used.**

**Specimen Collection and Shipping:**  
Ship sample at room temperature for receipt at EGL within 24 hours of collection. Do not refrigerate or freeze.

### Type: Muscle Biopsy

**Specimen Requirements:**  
Plain Container  
1-2 mm in length or > 100 mg is acceptable.  
Flash freeze sample upon collection using liquid nitrogen. If storage is required, store sample at -80°C or colder.

**Specimen Collection and Shipping:**  
Ship frozen sample on dry ice with overnight delivery. Not accepted on Saturday.

### Type: Tissue Biopsy

**Specimen Requirements:**  
Plain Container  
1-2 mm in length or > 100 mg is acceptable.  
Flash freeze sample upon collection using liquid nitrogen. If storage is required, store sample at -80°C or colder.

**Specimen Collection and Shipping:**  
Ship frozen sample on dry ice with overnight delivery. Not accepted on Saturday.

## Special Instructions

Other sample types accepted, but please call a laboratory genetic counselor before sending.

## Related Tests

- Maintain An Established Prenatal Culture (CV or AF)  
- Tissue Culture Only  
- Establish Prenatal Culture (CV or AF)