

## **CEREBROSPINAL FLUIDS**

In cytology, cerebrospinal fluids are most commonly evaluated to detect and characterize malignancy or inflammatory conditions. While in most individuals CSF specimens are relatively easy to obtain, in some individuals, collection may require radiographic guidance. Omayo reservoir specimens are also commonly submitted for evaluation.

**Indications:** Detection and characterization of malignant cells in the central nervous system.

**Specimen Required:**

No minimal amount is required, but collect as much specimen as is clinically possible. The optimal amount of CSF for cytology studies is 3 to 5 ml. If multiple tubes are collected, the last tube drawn is the one preferred for cytology.

**Supplies:**

Standard cerebrospinal fluid collection equipment.  
Clean, plastic 10 ml collection container for CSF.

**Collection:**

Use standard CSF collection procedures to collect FRESH CSF FLUID; place into specimen collection container. Label the container and requisition slip and send to the ARDX LMC laboratory STAT.