

Pre-Clinical Research Aided by Customized Collection Capabilities



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Conversant Bio™ has partnered with Streck to provide cancer researchers with customized clinical plasma samples that are research-ready, allowing researchers to focus on their studies and not their sample collection processing and logistics.

The following case study demonstrates how customized clinical samples provided by Conversant Bio in Streck Cell-Free DNA BCT® have helped accelerate cancer research for one U.S.-based biotech company.

The Challenge

A U.S.-based biotech company, on a mission to create a liquid biopsy test for early cancer detection in order to increase cancer survival rates, approached Conversant Bio to procure fresh collections of whole blood samples. The sample requirements included samples from 50 patients with non-small cell lung cancer along with 50 age-and gender-matched normal samples.

In addition to the staging criteria (Stage III and IV patients that are pre-treatment or progressing), the project was made more challenging by the tight processing window that the biotech's study protocol required. The original collection protocol required that samples be processed within 2 hours of collection using a high-speed centrifuge, which hindered clinical site enrollment to localized collections.

The Solution

Conversant Bio's exclusive partnership with Streck allowed them to promptly begin collections for the biotech company's study within 1 week of receiving the request. Additionally, the required timeline for processing samples was able to be extended from the initial liquid biopsy study protocol of 2 hours to 48 hours due to the use of Streck Cell-Free DNA BCT's unique stabilization properties.

The Result

Expanding the sample processing timeline allowed Conversant Bio to open up the project for collection across their extensive site collection network and **cut the timeline for sample collection down from the originally estimated 8 months to a completion time of 4 months.**

Upon completion of the first sample collection project, the project was enlarged to include another 100 patients with breast, colorectal, prostate, pancreatic, and non-small cell lung cancers. The same project acceleration is expected with the second project, **with an anticipated collection timeline of 5 months rather than 9 months** — allowing the researchers to go further in their research, faster.



1st Sample Collection Project Overview

- Patients = 100 Total - 50 NSCLC, 50 age- and gender-matched normals
- Sample Type = Peripheral whole blood
- Finished Good = Whole blood in 4 x 10 mL Streck Cell-Free DNA tubes >9.5 mL blood per tube when possible
- Protocol = Conversant Bio Standard Operating Protocol
- Inclusion Criteria = Stage III and IV patients that are Pre-Tx or have achieved a disease status of stable through treatment and have recurred/progressed. Blood will be collected prior to ensuing round of chemo after recurrence/progression. Typically this will be at least a 3-4 week window after previous chemo cycle; Open to all smoking statuses - monitor as project progresses. Normals will be age- and gender-matched within 5 years of patient and will be sent a day or two after the diseased sample.
- Exclusion Criteria = Friday Collections
- Shipping = FedEx First Overnight (8 a.m.); Ship at room temperature; Tuesday - Friday Deliveries Only

2nd Sample Collection Project Overview

- Patients = 100 Total - 20 NSCLC, 15 Breast, 8 Colorectal, 5 Prostate, and 2 Pancreatic Cancer, + 50 age- and gender-matched normals
- Sample Type = Peripheral whole blood
- Finished Good = Whole blood in 4 x 10 mL Streck Cell-Free DNA tubes; >9.5 mL blood per tube when possible
- Protocol = Conversant Bio Standard Operations Protocol Inclusion Criteria = Stage III and IV patients that are Pre-Tx or have achieved a disease status of stable through treatment and have recurred/progressed. Blood will be collected prior to ensuing round of chemo after recurrence/progression. Typically this will be at least a 3-4 week window after previous chemo cycle; Open to all smoking statuses - monitor as project progresses. Normals will be age- and gender-matched within 5 years of patient and will be sent a day or two after the diseased sample.
- Exclusion Criteria = Friday Collections Shipping = FedEx First Overnight (8 a.m.); Ship at room temperature; Tuesday - Friday Deliveries Only

For more information on how Conversant Bio is utilizing Streck Cell-Free DNA BCT, and how together we can provide research-ready customized clinical samples, contact Conversant Bio at sales@conversantbio.com, or visit streck.com.

About Conversant Bio

Conversant Bio provides researchers around the world with hyper-annotated tissue samples in order to conduct informed, cutting-edge investigations into many of today's most problematic diseases. With a large prospective collections network of more than 60 U.S.-based clinical sites and an IRB-reviewed chain of custody quality control system, Conversant Bio provides the highest-quality samples on time and on budget.