

## STRECK Cell-Free DNA BCT CE Tube Information

Attachment for SickKids DPLM External Website: Lab Information Sheets  
Last Updated: 12-JUN-2025

Fluid specimens for Liquid Biopsy Circulating Tumour DNA Sequencing must be collected in STRECK Cell-Free DNA BCT CE Tubes. This is a specialized tube type containing a preservative reagent that limits the release of genomic DNA, allowing for isolation of high-quality cell-free DNA and minimizing the degradation of circulating tumour cells.

### **Sourcing & Inventory Management:**

STRECK Cell-Free DNA BCT CE Tubes are available to order in 6-pack, 100-pack, or 1000-pack formats.<sup>1</sup> Please source tubes from Somagen Diagnostics or from a reputable local supplier. Consider the following factors:

- The lead time for order delivery will vary depending on supplier and country. In Canada, delivery may take up to 3 weeks.
- The average shelf life is 12-16 months. Exact expiry date may be confirmed with the supplier prior to ordering.
- Empty tubes must be stored in a clean, dry location at room temperature (2°C to 30°C). Do not refrigerate or freeze.
- These are glass tubes. Handle with care. Plastic tube formats are unavailable.
- Ensure that users understand the safety risks associated with the use of this product. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for Cell-Free DNA BCT CE Tubes.<sup>2</sup>



### **Collection:**

For whole blood collections, we recommend collecting by standard phlebotomy practices with the following additional considerations adapted from STRECK product literature<sup>3,4</sup>:

- STRECK tubes are designed to be direct draw blood collection tubes. Transferring a blood sample collected with a syringe and needle into STRECK tubes is not recommended due to the increased potential for hemolysis which negatively impacts test performance.
- STRECK tubes can be drawn **after** the EDTA tube (lavender top) and **before** the sodium fluoride/potassium oxalate anticoagulant tube (grey top). If a STRECK tube immediately follows a heparin tube (green top) in the draw order, we recommend collecting a non-additive or EDTA tube as a discard tube prior to collection in the STRECK tube.

For cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and other bodily fluid collections, we recommend collecting directly into a STRECK tube. If direct collection is not possible, first collect in a sterile non-additive container and then transfer immediately to a STRECK tube.

For all fluid specimens collected in STRECK tubes, it is critical to mix tubes thoroughly by gentle inversion 8 to 10 times after collection. Inadequate or delayed mixing may result in incorrect analytical results or poor product performance. One inversion is a complete turn of the wrist, 180 degrees, and back.

### **Storage and Transport:**

Follow the instructions on our website and requisition to route specimens to the Division of Pathology. Note the following critical factors:

- Specimens must be stored and transported at room temperature (6°C to 37°C).
- Do not refrigerate or freeze specimens.
- Specimens must be received within 7 days of collection.
- Ensure shipping methods are compliant with all local regulations.

### **References:**

1. [STRECK Cell-Free DNA BCT Brochure](#) (Document No. 320571-19, Date: 2020-09)
2. [STRECK Safety Data Sheet for Cell-Free DNA BCT Tubes](#) (Document No. SF10A1006-10, Date: 11/04/2019)
3. [STRECK Blood Collection Tube \(BCT\) Phlebotomy Best Practices](#) (Document No. 880112)
4. [STRECK Cell-Free DNA BCT CE Instructions for Use \(IFU\)](#) (Document No. 350648-13, Date: 2021-04)