

USE OF REFRIGERATED SHIPPERS
BY OREGON SENTINEL LABORATORY RESPONSE NETWORK LABS-
EMERGENCY TRANSPORT OF SELECT AGENTS ONLY



If an emergency (cases of possible smallpox cases; cases of anthrax human clinical specimens), then contact the state epidemiology department 971-673-1111 and state public health laboratory 503-693-4100.

What, when, how to collect specimens?

For smallpox specimens see CDC web site: Specimen collection

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox/vaccination/vaccinia-specimen-collection.asp>

Guide D-detailed specimen collection and transport guidelines

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox/response-plan/files/guide-d.pdf>

How to send specimens:

Place specimen into leak-proof primary specimen container and seal screw-top containers with tape.

Primary container is: blood tube, sterile urine/sputum screw-topped container, etc.

Place patient name on outside of primary specimen container.

Clean outside of primary specimen container with dilute bleach.

Place primary container into biohazard bag and then into the thick-plastic, orange-lid, screw-topped secondary container.

If primary container contains liquid, the biohazard bag should contain the thin absorbent material.

Do NOT place any ice into secondary thick-plastic, orange-lid, secondary container.

Ice packs or dry ice, go into styrofoam-lined-shipper box, to keep specimen temperature at freezing, (or dry ice if specimen needs to remain frozen for over a day).

Complete forms:

Viral request form for possible smallpox (bacterial for possible anthrax in clinical human specimens).

Shippers' Declaration form only if specimen being shipped via mail, Greyhound, etc.

Place "Suspected Category A infectious substance UN 2814" on the outside corner of the box (call state public health lab for assistance: 503-693-4100)

Transport the specimens

To: Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

3150 NW 229th Ave., Suite 100

Hillsboro, OR 97124

ATTN OSPHL Micro Dept.: _____ Phone: 503-693-4100

LIST OF CONTENTS:

1. Biohazard bag (place around primary specimen)
2. Absorbent material (thin piece of paper) to be placed between primary specimen and secondary plastic container -will absorb liquid contents if primary container accidentally opens
3. Infectious label to be placed on outside of outer cardboard box
4. Viral laboratory request form and Bacteriology laboratory request form
5. Shippers' declaration form-call the state public health lab for assistance 503-693-4100 or 503-693-4123 (to be used only if shipping an infectious substance via mail, Greyhound, etc)

NOT PROVIDED

1. Primary containers (blood tube, sterile urine/sputum screw-topped container)
2. Ice packs

(1-14-09/updated 7-8-11 OSPHL-LRN)