Chemical Terrorism Event
Collection, Packaging & Shipping Instructions
For Blood Specimens

A. Specimen Collection

1.

- **Collect blood specimens for each patient in the listed order:**

  1. 3 Purple Top Tubes
  2. 1 Gray or Green Top Tube

  Note: If using 3 mL tubes collect a fourth purple top tube. Do not collect blood specimens from pediatric patients unless otherwise directed.

2.

- **For purple top tubes:**

  Label tubes in order of collection: “1”, “2”, “3”.

- **Mix each tube by inverting it 5-6 times.**

3.

- **For gray or green top tube:**

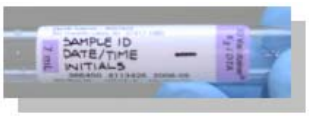
  Make sure that the gray or green top tube is collected after all of the purple top tubes.

- **Mix the tube by inverting it 5-6 times.**

4.

- **Label the blood tubes.**

  Label information should include at least the following:
  - Sample ID
  - Date & Time of Collection
  - Collector’s Initials



  Note: If a bar code is used, put it on tube vertically.

- **Include two empty tubes of each lot number used.**

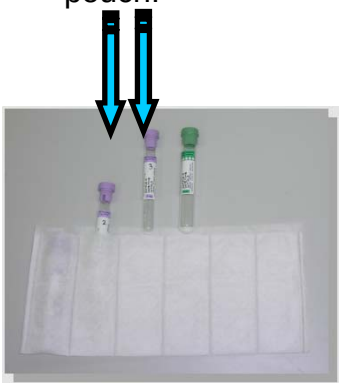
- **Store blood samples at 4°C to 8 ^{o}C. Do not freeze.**

B. Specimen Packaging

1.

- **Insert all blood tubes for a single patient into one absorbent pouch.**

  Place all blanks into a separate pouch.



2.

- **Place absorbent pouch into biohazard bag and seal.**

  Each bag can hold approximately 10 sleeves.

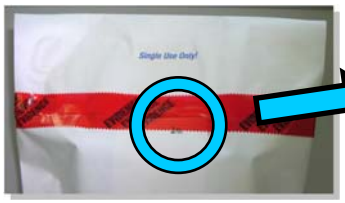
  Note: Use 95 kPa compliant secondary packaging materials.

3.

- **Place biohazard bag into Tyvek bag and seal.**

4.

- **Secure Tyvek bag with evidence tape.**
- **Initial as shown.**



C. Insulated Shipping Container Packing

1.

- **Place a layer of absorbent pads on the bottom of the shipping container.**

2.

- **Place a layer of 0°C cold packs on top of the absorbent pads layer.**

3.

- **Place the packaged blood tube sleeves in the shipping container.**

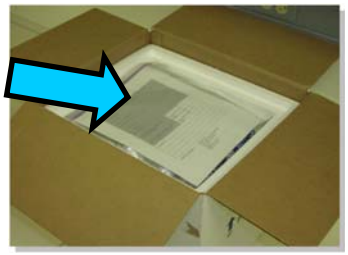
  Add absorbent padding as necessary to prevent shifting of bags during transit.

4.

- **Add a layer of 0°C cold packs on top of the packages and absorbent pads.**

5.

- **Insert the Blood Shipping Manifest in a sealable plastic bag and put it on top of the shipping container.**



6.

- **Put the lid on the container.**
- **Use strapping tape to seal the container.**

7.

- **Label the Shipping Container Exactly as Follows.**

  Make sure that all labels are on one side of the box.

  1. **Address shipping container ("To" and "From" addresses).**
  2. **Write down the name and phone number of person responsible for the package.**
  3. **Place a UN3373/Biological Substance Category B label on the shipping container.**

- **Ship to:** **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
  ATTN: LTJG Ernest McGahee
  4770 Buford Hwy
  Building 110 Loading Dock
  Atlanta, GA 30341
  (770) 488-7579

Questions? Contact Us:

- **Alfred Asato, Ph.D., Coordinator**
  Phone: 453-6748
  Cell: 864-5216
- **Gerald Pitz, Assistant Coordinator**
  Phone: 453-6749
- **Steven Bailey, Chemist**
  Phone: 453-6677

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Or visit us on the web:
http://www.hawaii.gov/health/laboratories/chemical-terrorism/index.html

Chemical Terrorism Response Laboratory
Hawaii State Department of Health
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For Blood Specimens

Activity Checklist

A. Specimen Collection

- ☐ **1. Collect purple top tubes**
  Number tubes in order of collection;
  If 3mL tubes used 4 tubes are required
- ☐ **2. Collect green or gray tube**
- ☐ **3. Set aside empty blood tubes**
  Two blood tube blanks per lot number used
- ☐ **4. Label tubes**
- ☐ **5. Store tubes at 4°C to 8°C**

B. Specimen Packaging

- ☐ **1. Insert blood tubes into absorbent pouches**
  One set of patient blood tubes per pouch
- ☐ **2. Place pouches into biohazard bags**
  Approximately 10 pouches per bag
- ☐ **3. Place biohazard bags into Tyvek bags**
- ☐ **4. Secure Tyvek bag with evidence tape**

C. Insulated Shipping Container Packing

- ☐ **1. Layer of absorbent pads on bottom of shipper**
- ☐ **2. Layer of 0°C cold packs**
- ☐ **3. Place Tyvek bags in shipper**
  Using absorbent pads as necessary
- ☐ **4. Layer of 0°C cold packs**
- ☐ **5. Blood shipping manifest and other documentation**
- ☐ **6. Seal container with strapping tape**
- ☐ **7. Label / address shipper correctly**