Instructions for Shipping Urine Specimens to CDC after a Chemical-Exposure Event

Guidance in Accordance with Packaging Instructions International Air Transport Authority (IATA) 650 Biological Substance Category B

For detailed instructions, see CDC's Shipping Instructions for Specimens Collected from People Who May Have Been Exposed to Chemical-Terrorism Agents.

1. Place a Class 9/UN 1845 label on the front of the shipper. This label for dry ice MUST indicate the weight of dry ice (in kg) in the shipper and the proper name (either dry ice or carbon dioxide, solid).

2. Use one continuous piece of evidence tape to seal the gridded box or Saf-T-Pak inner leak-proof polybag (or equivalent) containing wrapped urine cup(s). Write initials half on the evidence tape and half on the box or bag.

3. Wrap the gridded box with absorbent material and secure with tape. Seal the box inside a Saf-T-Pak inner leak-proof polybag (or equivalent). Note: If primary receptacles do not meet the internal pressure requirement of 95 kPa, use compliant secondary packaging materials.

4. Place the sealed Saf-T-Pak inner leak-proof polybag (or equivalent) inside a white Tyvek® outer envelope (or equivalent). Place the urine shipping manifest in a sealable plastic bag and put on top of the sample boxes inside the shipper. Keep your chain-of-custody documents for your files. Place lid on the shipper.

5. Seal the opening of this envelope with a continuous piece of evidence tape. Write initials half on the evidence tape and half on the envelope.

6. Use polystyrene foam-insulated, corrugated fiberboard shipper to ship boxes to CDC. Place absorbent pad in the bottom of the shipper.

7. Place a layer of dry ice in the bottom of the shipper on top of the absorbent material. DO NOT use large chunks or flakes of dry ice.

8. Place the packaged urine cups in the shipper. Use absorbent material or cushioning material to minimize shifting while box is in transit. Place additional dry ice on top of samples.

9. Place the urine shipping manifest in a sealable plastic bag and put on top of the sample boxes inside the shipper. Keep your chain-of-custody documents for your files. Place lid on the shipper.

10. Secure the outer container lid with filamentous shipping tape. Place your return address in the upper left-hand corner of the shipper top and put the CDC Laboratory receiving address in the center.

For questions concerning this process, please contact:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Attn: Cecelia Sanders, Chemical Emergency Response Team Leader
4770 Buford Hwy.
Building 110 Loading Dock
Atlanta, GA 30341
Office: (770) 488-4034
Cell: (770) 294-412

Send shipment via FedEx to:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Attn: Lt. Ernest McGahee
4770 Buford Hwy.
Building 110 Loading Dock
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 488-7579

Add the UN 3373 label and the words "Biological Substance Category B" on the front of the shipper. UN 3373 is the code identifying the shipper's contents as "Biological Substance, Category B."