Massachusetts Department of Public Health
William A. Hinton State Laboratory Institute
Chemical Threat Response Laboratory
305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
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CHEMICAL THREAT PACKAGING AND SHIPPING GUIDE FOR BLOOD SPECIMENS

COLLECTED FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO CHEMICAL AGENTS

II. PACKAGING SPECIMENS – BLOOD TUBES

INNER PACKAGING	OUTER PACKAGING
Package all blood tubes from the same patient together. **1.** Place absorbent material between the blood tubes and the 1st layer of secondary packaging. **2.** Use enough absorbent material to absorb the entire contents of the blood tubes. **3.** Separate or wrap tubes to prevent tube-to-tube contact. **4.** Secure the 1st layer of secondary packaging with one continuous strip of tamper-evident tape and write packer's initials half on the tape and half on the 1st layer of secondary packaging. **a.** Pack blood tubes in a gridded box lined with absorbent material—or—pack a sealable polystyrene foam container or blood tube shipment sleeve and transport tube with individually wrapped tubes. **b.** Seal the box or polystyrene foam container or transport tube with one continuous piece of evidence tape and write your initials half on the tape and half on the container. **5.** Wrap and seal the first layer of secondary packaging (e.g., gridded box) with absorbent material. **6.** Seal one wrapped gridded box or alternative container inside a clear, leak-proof biohazard polybag equivalent to Saf-T-Pak product STP-701, STP-711 or STP-731. **7.** Place this bag inside a white Tyvek® outer envelope (or equivalent); seal the opening with a continuous strip of evidence tape initialed half on the packaging and half on the tape. **8.** According to 49 CFR 173.199(b), for air transport, either the primary receptacle or the secondary packaging must be capable of withstanding, without leaking, an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not < 95 kPa (0.95 bar, 14 psi).	**1.** Use a polystyrene foam-insulated, corrugated fiberboard shipper (may be available from your transfusion service or send-outs department). **2.** For cushioning, place additional absorbent material in the bottom of the shipper. **3.** Add a single layer of refrigerator packs on top of absorbent material. **4.** Place the packaged specimens on top of the refrigerator packs. **5.** Use additional cushioning material to minimize shifting while the shipper is in transit. **6.** Place additional refrigerator packs on top of the secondary packaging to maintain a shipping temperature of 1° C - 10° C for the duration of transit. **7.** Place blood shipping manifest in a sealable plastic bag and put on top of packs inside the shipper. **8.** Keep chain-of-custody documents for your files. **9.** Place lid on shipper and secure corrugated fiber board (box) with filamentous shipping tape. **10.** Place your return address (including telephone number) in the upper left-hand corner of the shipper top and put MDPH's receiving address in center. **11.** Affix labels and markings adjacent to the shipper's/consignee's address that appears on the shipper. **12.** Place the UN 3373 label and the words "Biological Substance, Category B" adjacent to the label on the front of the shipper. **13. SHIP TO:** **William A. Hinton State Laboratory Institute** **Chemical Threat Response Laboratory** **305 South Street, Room 305** **Jamaica Plain, MA 02130** **ATTN: Dr. Jennifer Jenner** **24/7 Cell: 617-839-1283 Tel: 617-983-6650**

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