



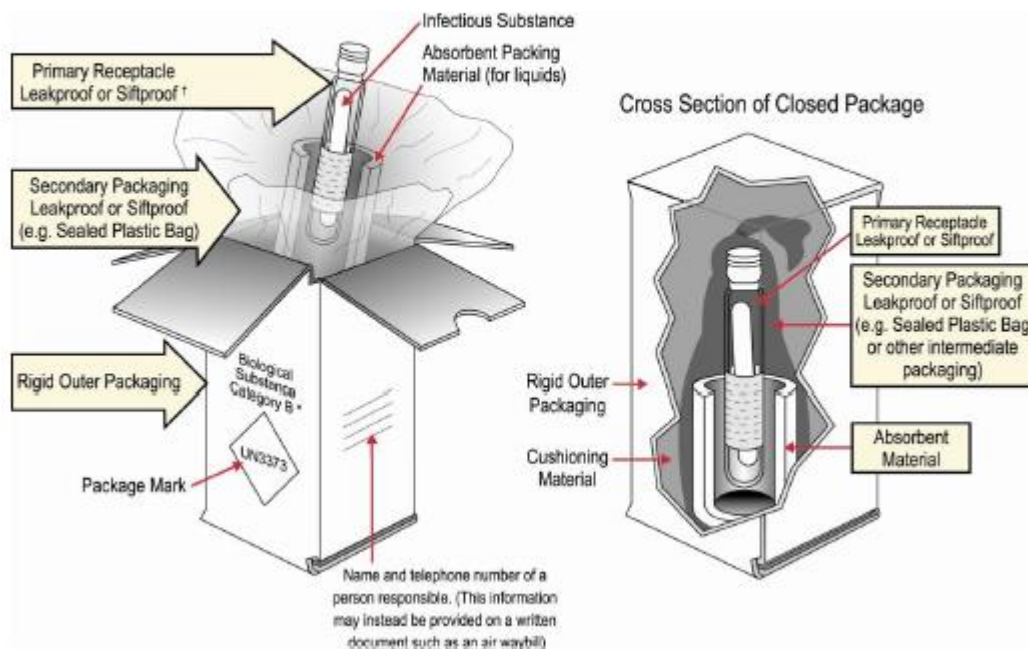
Arkansas Public Health Laboratory

Hospital Laboratory Guidelines for Receiving and Shipping Suspect Coronavirus Samples

Hospital laboratories submitting specimens to Local Health Unit (LHU) facilities for shipment to the Public Health Laboratory via the state courier system must package any suspect coronavirus samples as Category B, UN 3373. **LHU staff will not accept unpackaged private submitter specimens.** If sent through Fed Ex, UPS, etc. Category B, UN 3373 is required.

The following demonstrates the schematic for Category B packaging. See schematic below for example of Category B packaging. It is the responsibility of the submitting facility to ensure proper shipping for Category B specimens. Certification for shipping is required and can be obtained at the CDC Train Website.

UN 3373 Category B schematic for packaging





The link for the FREE UN 6.2 shipping course on CDC –Train is the following:

- <https://www.train.org/cdctrain/welcome>
- This site can be used to certify personnel for shipping infectious substances via a web course. All that is required is to create a login and password.
- If desired, login to the site and find the course catalog at the top of the webpage.
- Select it and enter the following into the “search TRAIN” engine: “packaging and shipping”
- The course name will appear as follows: Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials: What the Laboratorian Should Know
- Select and launch the course to begin. Complete the test at the end with a score of $\geq 80\%$ and the user is certified for packaging and shipping 6.2 materials.
- Ensure the user prints the certificate of completion and obtains the medical lab director’s signature on it to complete the certification.
- Keep the certificate/s in laboratory records. Maintain certification every two years.

Prior consultation with Arkansas Department of Health Epidemiology staff is required before submission of samples. The Outbreak Information number is 501-537-8969.

After consultation, the following information must be available for the PHL to provide to CDC:

1. Patient Name
2. Patient DOB
3. Gender
4. Age
5. Date of Onset
6. Collection date/time of each specimen
7. Specimen type for each specimen
8. Patient ID if provided
9. Name of physician
10. Clinic/hospital telephone number
11. Clinic/hospital fax number
12. Brief clinical history
13. Travel history