

SHIPPING GUIDELINES FOR MPHL COVID-19 TESTING FOR FROZEN SPECIMENS

All specimens must be refrigerated and packaged as Biological Substance, Category B, UN3373 prior to delivery to your local health department or directly to MPHL according to DOT regulations 49 CFR part 173.99.

***Freezing specimens should only be considered as an option if there are extenuating circumstances preventing sample submission within the 72 hour from collection requirements.**

Supplies

- 2 biohazard bags with absorbent material
- 1 synthetic-tripped swab with plastic shaft
- 1 viral transport medium tube
- 1 SARS-CoV-2 (Virus that causes COVID-19) Testing Requisition
- 1 Styrofoam cooler (box)
- Tape
- **DRY ICE** less than 5pounds (2.27 KG)
- Sturdy box large enough for the Styrofoam cooler to fit tightly inside

Packaging Specimens

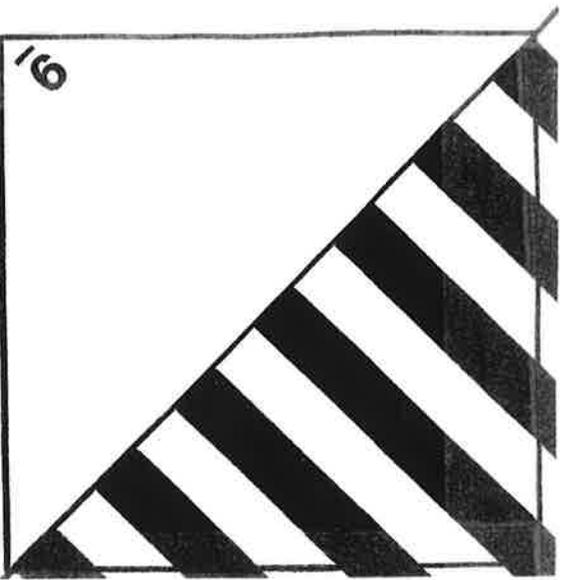
- Place Nasopharyngeal swab into viral transport medium tube
- Make sure the cap is sealed tight to avoid leaking
- Place tube and absorbent material into the first biohazard bag, seal the bag
- Place the first biohazard bag into the second biohazard bag, seal the bag
- Place the completed test request form inside the outer sleeve of the second biohazard bag, Do **NOT** staple test request form to the bag
- Place DRY ICE in the bottom of the styrofoam cooler and place biohazard bag on top of the dry ice
- Close lid and place the Styrofoam cooler inside the sturdy box
- If the box does not fit tightly, place additional material to fill the extra space
- Tape the box shut without sealing all edges of the box

How To Label The Box

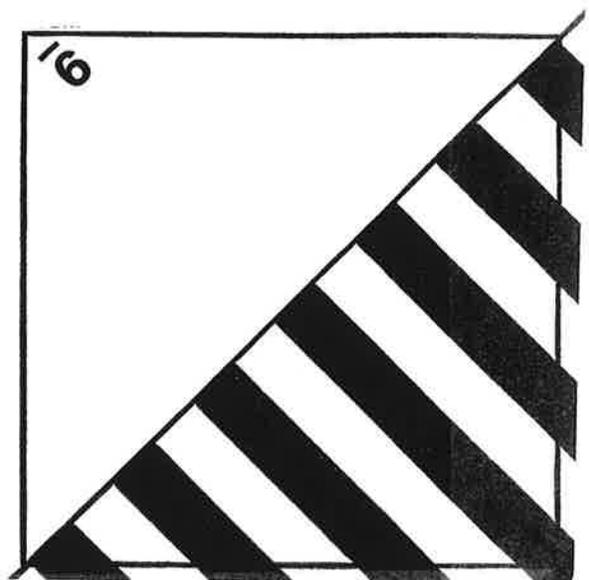
- The below listed information should all be placed on the same side of the box without overlapping onto another side
- From: Facility name
Physical address
Responsible Person: Individual's name and phone number of the person responsible for the package
- To: Mississippi Public Health Laboratory
Attn: Molecular Diagnostics Section/Thompson Facility
570 East Woodrow Wilson
Jackson, MS 39216
- Print an UN3373, Biological Substance, Category B label plus an UN1845, Dry Ice, Hazard Class 9 label (both on the second page)
- Securely tape the UN3373 label and the UN1845 label to the box, on the UN1845 label, note the quantity of dry ice in kilograms, the quantity of dry ice **MUST** not exceed 2.27 kg (5lbs)
- Cover or mark out any additional information on box not related to this shipment



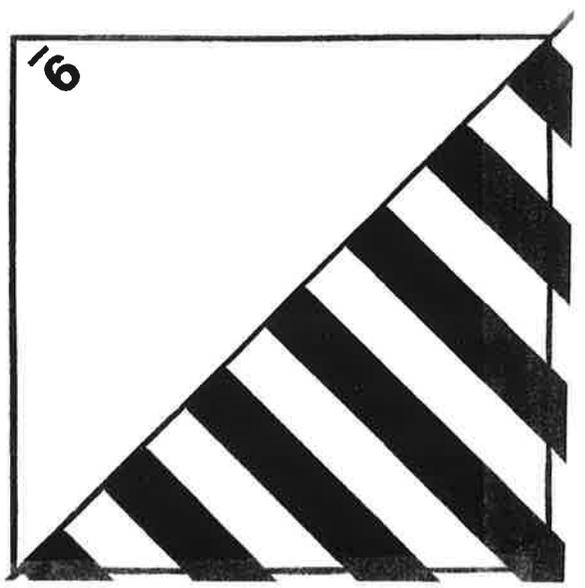
3/16/2020



DRY ICE UN1845
_____ KG



DRY ICE UN1845
_____ KG



DRY ICE UN1845
_____ KG



**BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE,
CATEGORY B**



**BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE,
CATEGORY B**



**BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE,
CATEGORY B**

SAFE HANDLING OF DRY ICE

Caution: Keep Dry Ice away from children if they cannot be closely supervised at all times.

HANDLING

Dry Ice temperature is extremely cold at -109.3°F or -78.5°C. Try to avoid contact with Dry Ice, and always wear protective cloth or leather gloves whenever handle working with Dry Ice. An oven mitt or towel will work. Prolonged contact with the skin cause injury similar to a burn.

STORAGE

Keep proper air ventilation wherever Dry Ice is stored. Store Dry Ice in an insulated container. Do not store Dry Ice in unventilated rooms, cellars, autos. Do not store Dry Ice in a completely airtight container. The sublimation of Dry Ice to Carbon Dioxide gas will cause any airtight container to expand and it could potentially explode. The Carbon Dioxide gas created by Dry Ice will replace oxygenated air and could cause suffocation if breathed exclusively. Do not store Dry Ice in a refrigerator freezer.

VENTILATION

If Dry Ice has been in a closed auto, van, room, or walk-in, for more than 10 minutes, open doors and allow adequate ventilation before entering. Leave area containing Dry Ice if you start to pant and breath quickly develop a headache or your fingernails or lips start to turn blue. This is the sign that you have breathed in too much CO₂ and not enough oxygen. Dry Ice CO₂ is heavier than air and will accumulate in low spaces. Do not enter closed storage areas that have or have had stored Dry Ice before airing out completely.

PICK-UP TIME AND TRANSPORTING

Plan to pick up the Dry Ice as close to the time it is needed as possible. Carry it in a well-insulated container such as an ice chest. If it is transported inside a car or van make sure there is fresh air by venting the windows.

SDS Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for more information:

<https://www.airgas.com/msds/001091.pdf>

DISPOSAL

Unwrap and leave it at room temperature in a well-ventilated area. It will sublime from a solid to a gas.

DO NOT leave Dry Ice unattended around children.