

Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (VHF) Specimen Collection and Shipment

VHF Specimen Collection and Shipment

ATTENTION: Prior approval for testing is required before collecting specimens. Contact Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 (919-733-3419) to determine if testing is warranted and discuss control measures. If testing is approved, contact NCSLPH-Bioterrorism and Emerging Pathogens (BTEP) Unit 24/7 (919-807-8600) to discuss specimen collection, submission form, packing/shipping requirements, transport, and communication.



Scan QR code for detailed instructions on VHF Specimen Collection, Packing and Shipping

STEP ONE Specimen Collection and Submission Form

- Collect two (2) plastic EDTA tubes with 4 ml of whole blood in each. For pediatric specimens, collect two (2) plastic EDTA tubes with 1-2 ml of whole blood in each. **Note: Glass tubes will not be accepted.**
- Label specimens
 - Patient name and a second identifier such as date of birth or MR#
 - Collection date and time
- Complete the required submission form referenced below in its entirety, confirming the identifiers on the tube match the information on the submission form.
 - [NCSLPH-BTEP Submission Form](#)

Label outside container with:

- Shipper name and address
- Name and 24/7 phone # of person who is aware of contents and emergency response information
- Destination name, address and phone number as follows:

ATTENTION: Bioterrorism and Emerging Pathogens Unit
North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health
4312 District Drive
Raleigh, NC 27607-5490
919-807-8600

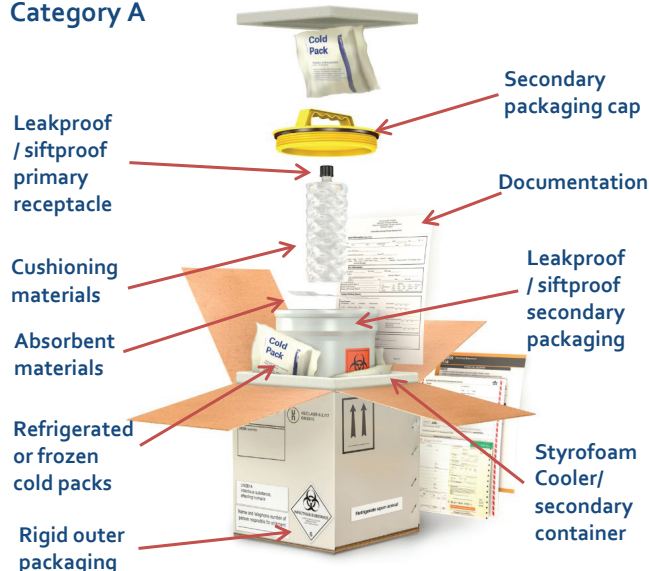
Complete a Shippers Declaration as required for ALL Category A packages using FX18 compliant software. Shippers Declaration can be created here: <https://apps.saftpak.com/>

STEP TWO Packing/Shipping

Note: You must be trained and certified in packing and shipping of hazardous materials to package/transport Category A infectious substances. You must use UN Certified packaging for Category A infectious substances, to include triple layer packaging. Clinical specimens must be received at 2-8°C.

For detailed instructions for packing and shipping VHF specimens, please follow [this checklist](#), or scan the QR code above.

Category A



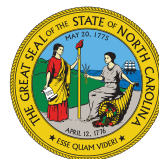
Make sure your package has correct labeling.

STEP THREE Transport

Notify the NCSLPH BTEP Duty Phone (919-807-8600) when the specimen is packaged and ready for pickup. NCSLPH BTEP Unit will arrange for transport of the packaged specimen via commercial courier.

*****DO NOT** send Category A packages through DOA Medical Courier system. ***

Notify the NCSLPH BTEP Duty Phone (919-807-8600) when specimen has been picked up by courier.



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health
State Laboratory of Public Health

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Shipping artwork is from the CDC document titled Specimen Storage and Shipping Guidance.