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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories

Purpose

This procedure ensures the proper transport of certain specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories (RRL) using the yellow plastic bag called **Multiple Tests (Shared Samples) and Specimen for Special Handling**.

The yellow bags are used for:

- Short sample specimens
- Shared sample specimens
- Specimens that are “hard to collect”, i.e. body fluids, bone marrow, tissue biopsy, etc.
- Specimens drawn in a pediatric/microtainer (bullet) collection tube
- Specimens with multiple or serial draw times, i.e. suppression/stimulating study, Peritoneal Equilibrium Test (PET)
- Specimens with Special Handling instructions, i.e. CJD, Outside Referral Lab tests
- Inpatient Microbiology specimens (seven selected tests) – Blood Culture, C. difficile, PCR, Enterovirus Molecular, Herpes PCR CSF, MRSA, Sterile Site Culture, Urine Culture

NOTE: Do not place ANY loose labels in the bag. All labels must be placed on the specimen.

Illustration


Outside Pocket "B"

**Specimen(s) with Multiple Tests
(Shared Samples)**

This bag is intended for short/draw samples with multiple tests in different departments

FOR SHORT SAMPLES PLEASE LIST IN ORDER OF PROVIDER'S PRIORITY


After draw date:	Original Lab, Specimen Processing Dept and date
	Testing Department: _____ Shared Sample: _____ Specimen Received by: _____ Specimen Received in: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Testing Department: _____ Specimen Received by: _____ Specimen Received in: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Testing Department: _____ Specimen Received by: _____ Specimen Received in: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Testing Department: _____ Specimen Received by: _____ Specimen Received in: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Testing Department: _____ Specimen Received by: _____ Specimen Received in: _____ Received by: _____



Southern California Permanente Medical Group
Regional Reference Laboratories
11668 Sherman Way
North Hollywood, CA 91605
(818) 424-NPO, fax line 818-377

SPECIMENS FOR SPECIAL
HANDLING

- Call Regional Lab Client Service Center to inform the RRL to expect a specimen requiring special handling or testing
- Include the special handling or testing instruction in the bag. Place instruction inside "Pocket A"



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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories, Continued

Procedure Follow the steps described in the table below.

Step	Action												
1	Call ordering provider for test priority, if applicable.												
2	Verify that the specimen container(s) or collection tube(s) are labeled with patient name and medical record number (MRN). <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">BLOOD SPECIMEN</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>If the specimen is blood and...</td> <td>Then...</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Short sample</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>For multiple tests that includes a test requiring a primary unopened tube, e.g. HIV, HBSAG, AAHEP, etc.</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the collection label for the test requiring a primary tube on the specimen. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>“Hard to collect”</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. </td> </tr> <tr> <td>For a test that includes multiple/serial draw times</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verify that all required specimens are submitted. • Apply the correct collection label to the corresponding specimen. • Place all specimens in the bag. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BLOOD SPECIMEN		If the specimen is blood and...	Then...	Short sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. 	For multiple tests that includes a test requiring a primary unopened tube, e.g. HIV, HBSAG, AAHEP, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the collection label for the test requiring a primary tube on the specimen. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. 	“Hard to collect”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. 	For a test that includes multiple/serial draw times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verify that all required specimens are submitted. • Apply the correct collection label to the corresponding specimen. • Place all specimens in the bag.
BLOOD SPECIMEN													
If the specimen is blood and...	Then...												
Short sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. 												
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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories, Continued

Procedure (continued)

If the specimen is blood and...	Then...
Drawn in a pediatric/microtainer (bullet) collection tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attach collection labels to the outside of the bag according to priority. • Make sure primary pediatric/microtainer has the proper identification information.
Is an Immunosuppressant Drug: Everolimus Tacrolimus Sirolimus Cyclosporine Methotrexate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place into the Yellow Bag and transport on the next available courier. <p><i>Note:</i> Refer to LabNet for testing schedule.</p>
Is a TDM: Amikacin Gentamicin Tobramycin Vancomycin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place into the Yellow Bag and transport on the next available courier.
Quantiferon [TBGLD]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place into the Yellow Bag and transport on the next available courier
Zika Virus RNA, Serum and Urine, Qualitative, TMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place paired specimens [Serum and Aptima Combo 2 Urine Specimen Collection Kit [urine level must be between the 2 lines]] into the Yellow Bag and transport on the next available courier.

Requires **Special Handling or Testing Instructions**, e.g. CJD, Outside Referral Lab, etc.

- Place any related paperwork inside the bag with the specimen(s).
- Call RRL Client Service Center at 1-818-503-7077 tie line 397 to announce the arrival of a specimen requiring special handling/testing.

Note:

Client Service Center will document the case and create a Special Intercept form.

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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories, Continued

Procedure (continued)

If the specimen is blood and...	Then...
Is for Tumor Marker Manual Quantitation [Dilution] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFP • CA 19-9 • CA 125 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The patient should hand carry a note from the physician to the collection site requesting the dilution • The specimen is drawn and the physician’s note and the specimen is placed in the yellow bag indicating “ATTN: Automated Chemistry Manager.” • The sending location will email the following person’s indicating the specimen is on the way: Chiemi X Tabata, Olivia C Hsieh, Anthony J DelRosario-Gonzales, Josimar Orellana, Herman L Acera, Elvira S Martin, Catherine C Tagle, Ryan Quilatan, and Marianne E Muyrong. • Indicate the following information in the email: Patient’s full name, MRN, and accession number and when the specimen will be sent to the RRL.

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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories, Continued

Procedure (continued)

NON-BLOOD SPECIMEN	
If the specimen is non-blood and...	Then...
Short sample	NOTE: Two sets of labels needed [one for the bag, one for the sample container] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. Attach the collection labels to the sample. Reprint and place labels on the outside of the bag according to priority.
Shared sample [multiple departments]	NOTE: Two sets of labels needed [one for the bag, one for the sample container] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. Attach the collection labels to the sample. Reprint and place labels on the outside of the bag according to priority.

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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories, Continued

Procedure (continued)

If the specimen is non-blood and...	Then...
Requires Special Handling or Testing Instructions , e.g. CJD, Outside Referral Lab, or for dilution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place any related paperwork inside the bag with the specimen(s). • Call RRL Client Service Center at 1-818-503-7077 tie line 397 to announce the arrival of a specimen requiring special handling/testing. <p><i>Note:</i> Client Service Center will document the case and create a Special Intercept form.</p>
In-Patient Microbiology	Place samples for these tests in yellow bags and ship, or process and ship in the following temperature as indicated for each test: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood Culture – Ambient • C. difficile PCR – Refrigerated • Enterovirus Molecular – Refrigerated • Herpes PCR, CSF – Frozen • MRSA – Ambient • Sterile Site Culture – Plate at the Medical Center and ship plates ambient • Urine Culture – Transfer sample into a gray top (boric acid) tube and ship ambient
Synovasure testing is ordered at Antelope Valley or Kern County	Place the specimen [synovial fluid in RD3 container] in the bag with the appropriate label attached.

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Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories, Continued

Procedure (continued)

Step	Action
3	Verify that specimen(s) are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entered/scanned in the laboratory specimen tracking system, and• Packed according to specimen temperature requirement.
4	Seal the bag.
5	Follow the established guidelines for delivery to RRL.

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Signature Manifest

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All dates and times are in Pacific Standard Time.

Yellow biohazard Bag

Initial Approval

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
Janice Wolf (K119893)	Operations Director	16 Aug 2017, 09:45:42 AM	Approved

Final Approval

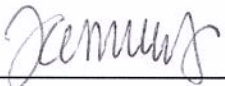
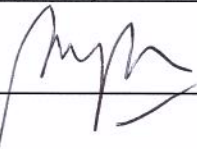
Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
David Quam (P092597)	Rgnl Mg Admn-Pmg Executive	16 Aug 2017, 10:21:56 AM	Approved

Set Effective Date

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
Matthew Jones (F754627)	Systems Consultant		
Laura Perry (S533438)	Admin Spec II	17 Aug 2017, 04:19:47 PM	Approved

Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Specimens to the Regional Reference Laboratories

Reviewed and approved by (for Medical Center Area Approval Only):

SIGNATURE	DATE
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Name: <u>Janice M. Wolf</u> Operations Director, Area Laboratory	
	5/10/18
Name: <u>Sony Wirio, MD</u> CLIA Laboratory Director	
