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Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Non- Blood Specimens

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 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

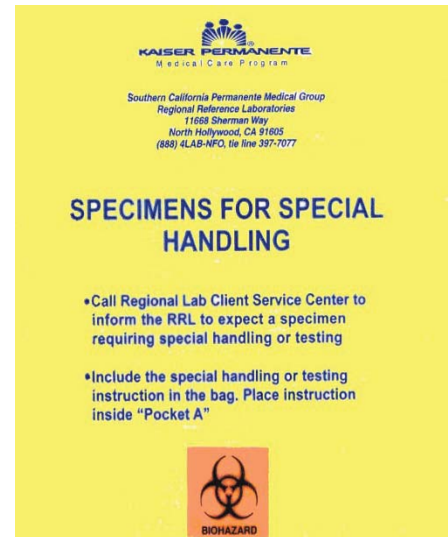
Outside Pocket "B"

Specimen(s) with Multiple Tests (Shared Samples)

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

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

Affix Barcodes	Regional Lab, Specimen Processing Dept use only
	Testing Department: _____ Delivery Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____ Specimen Returned to SPD Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Delivery Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____ Specimen Returned to SPD Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Delivery Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____ Specimen Returned to SPD Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Delivery Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____ Specimen Returned to SPD Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____
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Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Non- Blood Specimens, Continued

Procedure

Follow the steps described in the table below.

Step	Action				
1	Call ordering provider for test priority, if applicable.				
2	<p data-bbox="544 548 1403 617">Verify that the specimen container(s) are labeled with patient name and medical record number (MRN).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="560 638 1395 1125"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="560 638 894 716">If the specimen is non-blood and...</th> <th data-bbox="894 638 1395 716">Then...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="560 716 894 1125">Short sample, Shared sample [multiple departments]</td> <td data-bbox="894 716 1395 1125"> <p data-bbox="906 722 1365 821">NOTE: Two sets of labels needed [one for the bag, one for the sample container]</p> <ul data-bbox="906 831 1360 1119" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="906 831 1360 930">• Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. <li data-bbox="906 940 1360 1010">• Attach the collection labels to the sample. <li data-bbox="906 1020 1360 1119">• Reprint and place labels on the outside of the bag according to priority. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	If the specimen is non-blood and...	Then...	Short sample, Shared sample [multiple departments]	<p data-bbox="906 722 1365 821">NOTE: Two sets of labels needed [one for the bag, one for the sample container]</p> <ul data-bbox="906 831 1360 1119" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="906 831 1360 930">• Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. <li data-bbox="906 940 1360 1010">• Attach the collection labels to the sample. <li data-bbox="906 1020 1360 1119">• Reprint and place labels on the outside of the bag according to priority.
If the specimen is non-blood and...	Then...				
Short sample, Shared sample [multiple departments]	<p data-bbox="906 722 1365 821">NOTE: Two sets of labels needed [one for the bag, one for the sample container]</p> <ul data-bbox="906 831 1360 1119" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="906 831 1360 930">• Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. <li data-bbox="906 940 1360 1010">• Attach the collection labels to the sample. <li data-bbox="906 1020 1360 1119">• Reprint and place labels on the outside of the bag according to priority. 				

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Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Non- Blood Specimens, Continued

Procedure (continued)

Step	Action	
2	If the specimen ...	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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Use of Yellow (Special Handling) Biohazard Bag to Transport Non- Blood Specimens, 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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All dates and times are in Pacific Standard Time.

Yellow Biohazard Bag Non-Blood

Initial Approval

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Operations Director Approval

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
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Medical Director Approval

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
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