

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:

- Shared sample specimens
- Short 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

Illustration

Multiple Tests (Shared Sample) and Specimen for Special Handling Bag

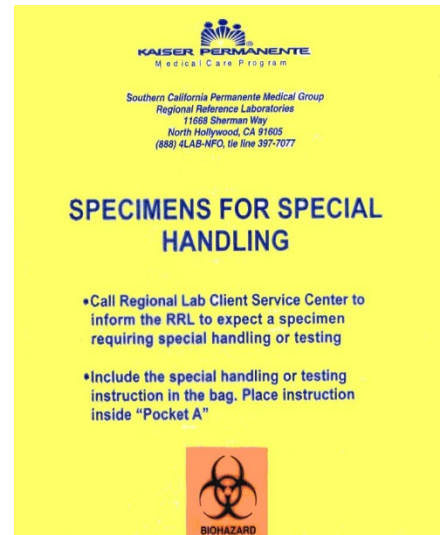
Outside Pocket "B"

**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 Barcode	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: _____
	Testing Department: _____ Delivery Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____ Specimen Returned to SPD Date/Time: _____ Received by: _____



Continued on next page

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	<p data-bbox="544 598 1403 672">Verify that the specimen container(s) or collection tube(s) are labeled with patient name and medical record number (MRN).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="565 709 1386 1688"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="565 709 1386 745">BLOOD SPECIMEN</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="565 745 894 821">If the specimen is blood and...</th> <th data-bbox="894 745 1386 821">Then...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="565 821 894 1045">Short sample</td> <td data-bbox="894 821 1386 1045"> <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 data-bbox="565 1045 894 1270">For multiple tests that includes a test requiring a primary unopened tube, e.g. HIV, HBSAG, AAHEP, etc.</td> <td data-bbox="894 1045 1386 1270"> <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 data-bbox="565 1270 894 1495">“Hard to collect”</td> <td data-bbox="894 1270 1386 1495"> <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 data-bbox="565 1495 894 1688">For a test that includes multiple/serial draw times</td> <td data-bbox="894 1495 1386 1688"> <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. 												
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. 												

Continued on next page

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	<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>
Requires Special Handling or Testing Instructions , e.g. CJD, Outside Referral Lab, etc.	<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>
NON-BLOOD SPECIMEN	
If the specimen is non-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.

Continued on next page

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>
Microbiology split sample specimen that may be partially processed at the Medical Center, i.e. Routine Sputum Culture with AFB and Mycology ordered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plate the Routine Sputum Culture at the Medical Center and label the plates appropriately. • Indicate on the Shared Sample side of the bag the priority of testing as provided. • If an In-Patient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the plates in a yellow bag and ship ambient. • Place the original specimen container in another yellow bag and ship refrigerated. • If an Out-Patient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send the plates as normal and ship ambient. • Place the original specimen container in a yellow bag and ship refrigerated.

Continued on next page

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...
	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Manual Requisition Form into bag with the specimen [synovial fluid in RD3 container].
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.	

Author(s) Liza Curioso, Elvira Martin, Herman Acera, Robert Rabot, Rebecca Rosser, Pre-analytical Processing Work Group

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
Name: _____ Operations Director, Area Laboratory	
Name: _____ CLIA Laboratory Director	

Signature Manifest

Document Number: SCPMG-PPP-0112

Revision: 01

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

All dates and times are in Pacific Standard Time.

Proper Use of Yellow (Special Handl

Final Approval

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
Darryl Palmer-Toy (T188420)	SCPMG Laboratory Sys Med Dir	13 Jan 2016, 04:58:57 PM	Approved

Set Effective Date

Name/Signature	Title	Date	Meaning/Reason
Rebecca Rosser (K053260)	RRL ED CONSULTANT	14 Jan 2016, 01:53:24 PM	Approved