

Sputum Packaging and Shipping Instructions

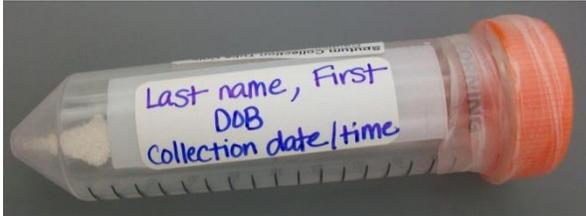
1. Complete all of the requested information on the "Anchorage Lab Request" form:

(<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Labs/Documents/publications/AncSupplyReq.pdf>).

It is extremely important to fill in both the collection date and collection time. Complete information in the box labeled "Mycobacteriology (TB)." Check "Culture/AFB Smear for Mycobacteria."

2. Prepare and package specimens:

- Firmly secure the specimen vial's lid and wrap the lid with Parafilm or tape.
- Label with patient's name, patient's date of birth, AND date and time of collection.



c. Place up to three tubes (from the same patient) in the small clear plastic "Biohazard" specimen bag.



NOTE:

- Up to 3 tubes (from the same patient) can be put in the same biohazard bag
- Label each sample tube with patient's name, patient's date of birth, AND date and time of collection
- Absorbent is not needed in each biohazard bag

d. Place Anchorage Lab Request form in the outer sleeve of the specimen bag (one for each sample collected).

e. Place specimen bag(s) in the 95kPa bag (as many as will fill the 95kPa bag). Ensure there is an absorbent pad in this outer 95kPa bag (box kit should come with an absorbent pad from the ASPHL).

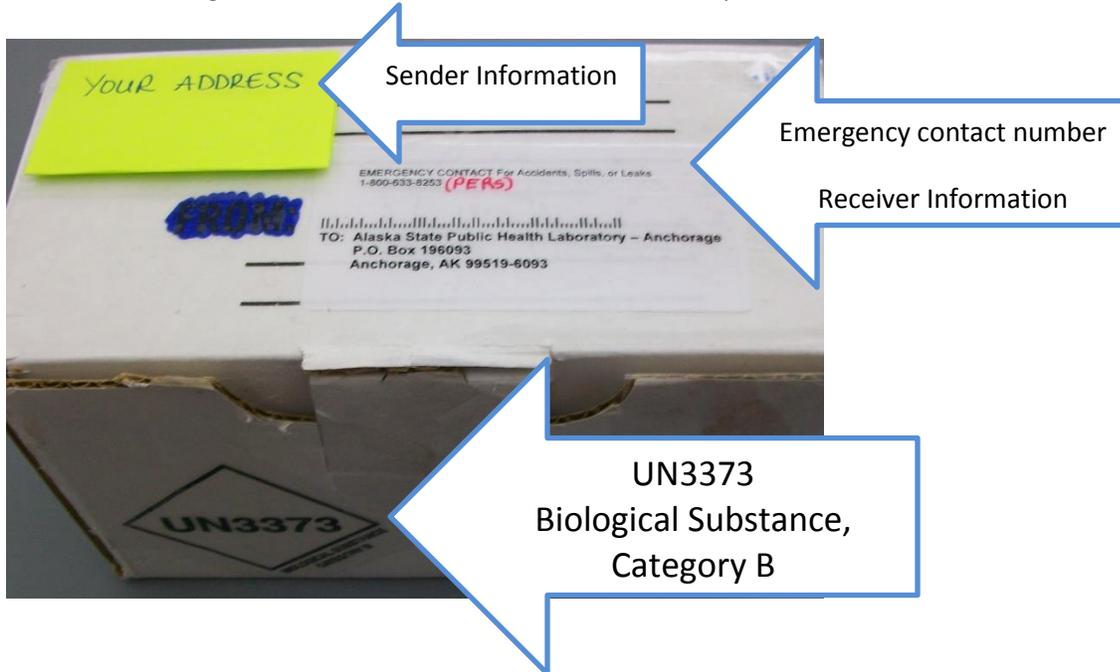


Absorbent Pad

NOTE:

Multiple specimen bags may be placed inside the 95kPa bag.

f. Place 95kPa bag into assembled box, and seal with clear tape. Ensure all labels are visible and not covered.



g. Ship via U.S. Mail to the Alaska State Public Health lab, using this address:

Alaska State Public Health Laboratory
PO Box 196093
Anchorage, AK 99519-6093

h. **When GoldStreak or expedited shipment of specimens is requested**, please work directly with the AK TB Program to make arrangements:

- All expedited shipments of specimens should be pre-approved by the AK TB Program
- You will be provided with a GoldStreak or expedited shipping account number to cover the cost of this shipment only
- All GoldStreak or expedited specimens must be sent to the physical address of the lab:

Alaska State Public Health Laboratory
5455 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave
Anchorage, AK 99507
Phone: (907) 334-2100

- As the shipper, you must provide the airway bill (AWB) number and shipping information to AK TB Program staff by calling 907-269-8000. **The parcel will NOT be picked up unless the shipper provides the AK TB Program with the AWB number!**
- Questions about obtaining supplies: (907) 334-2100
- Questions about laboratory procedure: (907) 334-2100
- Questions about TB case management or specific patients: Call either your Public Health Nurse or the Alaska TB Program: 907-269-8000