



Packaging and Shipping Blood Tubes

Label each blood tube



To insure satisfactory specimen receipt and proper testing in the DSHS Laboratory, label *each* tube of blood or serum with the name of the patient *exactly* the way it is written on the laboratory request form.

Container sets



Container sets are available in three sizes for shipping blood specimens: small, medium, and large. You may order the appropriate size for:

- 1 specimen (small),
- 4 specimens (medium)
- 7 specimens (large)

For more information on laboratory mailing containers and supplies, call (512) 776-7661 or toll free at (888) 963-7111 ext. 7661.

Assemble components



The number of blood tubes broken in transit can be greatly reduced or eliminated by using appropriate packaging and following these simple instructions:

- 1) Assemble components
 - Properly labeled blood tubes
 - Paper towels
 - Absorbent
 - Appropriate container set

Place absorbent into liner



- 2) Place absorbent into bottom of liner.

Wrap tubes in paper towels



- 3) Wrap tubes in paper towels.

Place tubes in liner



4) Place tubes in liner.

Place absorbent on top of tubes



5) Place absorbent on top of tubes and screw on plastic liner cap.

Finishing steps



- 6) Place laboratory form around the outside of the liner. Place liner in the cardboard mailer. Screw on appropriate, well-fitting metal cap.

Questions on properly packaging and shipping blood tubes should be directed to the Specimen Acquisition Branch at (512) 776-7598.

Remember:

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