



PROTOCOL FOR TRANSPORT OF TISSUE SAMPLES

A- CONDITIONING AND TRANSPORT OF TISSUES AT 4°C

Equipment and Materials

The following packaging material¹ is necessary:

- Primary packaging: A leak-proof tube (stop valve or screw cap) containing the transport medium (limited to 50 ml) and the tissue sample
- Absorbent paper (kitchen paper)
- Bubble wrap
- Secondary packaging : Hard plastic container with a screw-top lid
- A frozen pack (freezpack®) to maintain the sample at 4°C during transport
- Outer packaging : An approved cardboard package-box for the transport of biological material

Procedure

Keep the freezpack in the freezer before using it for the transport of the sample(s)

Preparation of the packaging: this procedure is in conformity with the regulation(s) in force

1. Wrap the leak-proof tube containing the sample and transport medium in **absorbent paper** (kitchen paper), then in **bubble wrap**, and place it in a **plastic container**.
2. **Tightly close** the screw-top lid of the plastic container
3. Then put the plastic container in the **package-box** together with the frozen pack (or freezpack®)
4. Please **enclose** the following documents :
 - the **Transport Document**
 - the **Safety Instructions Document**
5. Label the package-box clearly using two separate labels, so that it is easy to read and to identify the **sender's** and **recipient's** addresses and give all the information necessary for the delivery.
6. The **label** must indicate : “**DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE(S) – UN 3373**”

Transport of Samples

1. Samples shall be picked up at the sender's institution
2. The carrier must be accredited for the transport of dangerous goods
3. For transport to foreign countries, both the sender and the recipient must have an import-export authorisation for biological material.²

¹ The packaging material is approved by the **Regulation on Transport of Biological Material (ADR) in force as of January 1st 2005**.

² Authorisations are delivered by the national or local authority



B- TRANSPORT OF FROZEN TISSUES ON DRY ICE

Equipment and Materials

The following packaging material is necessary:

- Primary packaging: A leak-proof tube (stop valve or screw cap) containing the tissue sample
- Absorbent paper (kitchen paper)
- Secondary packaging: Hard plastic container with a screw-top lid
- Outer packaging: An approved insulated polystyrene box plus external cardboard package-box for the transport of biological material
- Dry ice (15 kg are sufficient for about 72 hours if the package is kept refrigerated at intervals between shipping)

Procedure

Ensure that the secondary container and the absorbent paper are pre-cooled and that the dry ice is in the polystyrene outer package-box.

Preparation of the packaging:

1. Place the cryotubes containing the frozen tissue samples in a pre-cooled leak-proof **plastic container**. Wrap the leak-proof tube containing the sample in pre-cooled **absorbent paper**.
2. **Tightly close** the plastic container.
3. Then put the plastic container in the outer **package-box**. Ensure that the dry ice is already in place in order not to thaw the tissues.
4. Enclose the following documents:
 - a. the **Transport Document**
 - b. the **Safety Instructions Document**.
5. Label the package-box clearly using two separate labels, so that it is easy to read and to identify the **sender's** and **recipient's** addresses and give all the information necessary for the delivery and the **type of storage (at -20 °C)**.
6. The **label** must indicate: "**DIAGNOSIS SAMPLE(S) – UN 3373**".
7. Place on the package box the **label UN 1845** indicating that the package contains dry ice.

Transport of Samples

1. Samples shall be picked up at the sender's institution
2. The carrier must be accredited for the transport of dangerous goods
3. For transport to foreign countries, both the sender and the recipient must have an import-export authorisation for biological material¹

¹ Authorisations are delivered by the national or local authority

<http://www.eurobiobank.org/en/services/services.htm>