



Shipping a Suspected Rabies Sample to Idaho Bureau of Laboratories (IBL)



Rabies exposure event (bite, bat)

Contact epidemiologist

Package sample

Ship to IBL

General Information for Rabies Testing:

- **A district or state-level epidemiologist must be consulted prior to sample submission for testing.**
 - District contact at <https://bit.ly/2uBYdXV>
 - State contact at Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention, 208-334-5939
- If approved by an epidemiologist, rabies testing occurs at IBL, the only lab in Idaho that performs this test.
 - **No live animals** are accepted at IBL.
 - No whole skunk bodies are accepted at IBL.
 - Bats should be submitted intact.
 - Other animals should be decapitated by an approved agency (e.g., veterinarian, animal control) and only the head submitted.
- Complete the IBL Rabies Test form found at www.statelab.idaho.gov → Clinical Testing → Submission Forms and also at <https://bit.ly/2A2SNua>
- Cats and dogs that bite people are typically quarantined and observed for 10 days instead of tested for rabies.

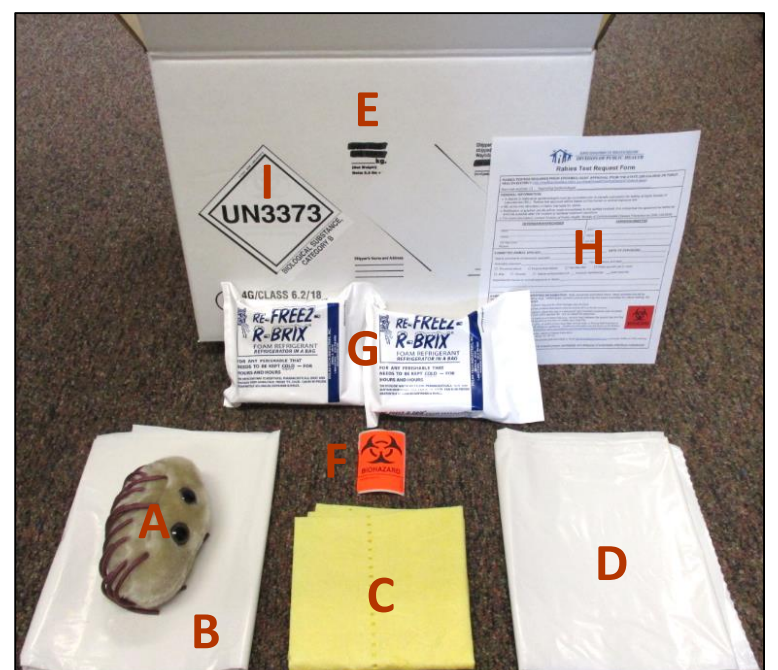
Packaging and Shipping a Rabies Sample – Triple Package for Category B Infectious Substance

- Packaging and shipping materials are available – contact the district epidemiologist.
 - **It is the shipper's responsibility to ensure proper packaging and shipping of potentially infectious materials.**
1. Place sample (**A**) in a heavy plastic bag (**B**).
 2. Seal this bag (tie open end of bag into a knot) – ensure bag is leak-proof.
 3. Wrap absorbent material (**C**) around bag, place both in a second bag (**D**), and seal this bag – ensure bag is leak-proof.
 4. Place this second bag in the styrofoam cooler that is inside the outer package (**E**).
 5. Adhere a biohazard symbol (**F**) on the second bag so it is visible inside the cooler.
 6. Put frozen gel packs (**G**) around the second bag inside the cooler – do not freeze the sample.
 7. Put cushioning material around all to ensure the contents do not move inside the cooler.
 8. Put the lid on the cooler, then put the completed IBL test form (**H**) in a zip lock bag on the cooler lid.
 9. Close the outer package – tape the flaps so it will not open (use packing tape, not masking tape).
 10. Adhere a “UN3373 Biological Substance, Category B” label (**I**) in a diamond orientation on the outer package.
 11. Ship the sample via FedEx, UPS, or USPS (First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, or Priority Mail Express). The outer package must have the following information (typically found on the shipping label):
 - Shipper information: Agency name, address, and phone number
 - Recipient information: Agency name/department and address

Ship to IBL: Idaho Bureau of Laboratories, Attn Rabies Lab
2220 Old Penitentiary Rd
Boise, ID 83712

Notify the IBL Rabies Lab by phone (208-334-0593) or e-mail IBLclinical@dhw.idaho.gov to provide FedEx or UPS tracking information on the shipped sample.

See reverse side for high consequence pathogens shipping instructions.



Items not provided: plastic bags, absorbent material, frozen gel packs



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Shipping a Suspected High Consequence Pathogen to Idaho Bureau of Laboratories (IBL)



General Information for High Consequence Pathogen Testing:

- High consequence pathogens have the potential to infect many people and/or animals. Examples include:
 - *Yersinia pestis*, causing plague (endemic in ground squirrel populations)
 - *Francisella tularensis*, causing tularemia (ticks, deer flies, rabbits and rodents are especially susceptible)
- **A district or state-level epidemiologist must be consulted prior to sample submission for testing.**
 - District contact at <https://bit.ly/2uBYdXV>
 - State contact at Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention, 208-334-5939
- If approved by an epidemiologist, sample testing occurs at IBL.
 - **No live animals** are accepted at IBL.
- Complete the IBL Biological Threat Test form found at www.statelab.idaho.gov → LRN-B & Sentinel Labs → Submission Forms, and also at <https://bit.ly/2JO54mc>

Packaging and Shipping a Sample – Triple Package for Category B Infectious Substance

- Packaging materials are available – contact the district epidemiologist.
 - **It is the shipper's responsibility to ensure proper packaging and shipping of potentially infectious materials.**
1. Place sample in primary container (**A**); tape or parafilm lid to body of container. Examples include:
 - blood drawn in vacutainer tube
 - stool sample in transport vial
 - animal tissue in 50 mL tube
 2. Wrap absorbent material (**B**) around primary container, and place both in small canister (**C**).
 3. Adhere biohazard label (**D**) to outside of small canister.
 4. Wrap cushioning material (**E**) around small canister, and place both in outer package (**F**).
 5. Fill out completely the IBL sample test submission form (**G**), then fold the form and place it on top of the small canister inside the outer package.
 6. Close the outer package – tape the lid so it will not open (use packing tape, not masking tape).
 7. Adhere a “UN3373 Biological Substance, Category B” label (**H**) in a diamond orientation onto one side of the outer package. Ensure that the label is not overlapping two sides of the package.
 8. The outer package must have the following information (typically found on the shipping label, **I**):
 - Shipper information: Agency name, address, and phone number
 - Recipient information: Agency name/department and address
 9. If shipping sample to IBL via FedEx, choose Standard Overnight delivery.

Ship to IBL:

Idaho Bureau of Laboratories, Attn LRN-B Lab
2220 Old Penitentiary Rd
Boise, ID 83712

Notify the IBL LRN-B Lab by phone (208-334-0596) to provide FedEx or UPS tracking information on shipped samples.

