



Safe Operating Procedure

(Revised 5/25)

TRANSPORT OF BIOHAZARDOUS MATERIALS (INCLUDING RESEARCH AND CLINICAL SPECIMENS/MATERIALS)

Scope

This SOP is specifically for on-campus and inter-campus transport of biohazardous materials between work locations at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), by UNL personnel. This SOP does not apply to transport by commercial carriers or from one entity to another entity.

Biohazardous materials may include:

- pathogens of any kind including biological toxins or animals, tissues, cells or microorganisms containing pathogens or toxins.
- recombinant and/or synthetic nucleic acids (r/sNA) or materials and organisms containing r/sNA;
- genetically modified plants, animals, microorganisms, or cell lines

Off-site transport may be subject to additional regulations administered by other Federal Departments/Agencies including but not limited to: Department of Transportation, Centers for Disease Control, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Fish and Wildlife, and Department of Commerce.

Procedures

Observe the following safe work practices when transporting biological materials on-campus between work locations:


- Transport using a labeled and sealed primary container within a sealed, leak-proof secondary container (e.g., Rubbermaid®-type container, portable cooler, etc.). Disinfect the outside of the primary and secondary container with an appropriate disinfectant before transporting.
- Absorbent material needs to be placed in the secondary container.
- Place printed information about the material being transported inside a sealable (e.g. Ziploc) bag and place the information within the secondary container. Information should include:
 - The name of the material being transported

- Originating lab information (PI name, building and room) at a minimum.
 - **Example:** *Salmonella infantis*, Gorgon Smith Lab, FIC 237
 - **Example:** Plasmids containing rDNA (Non-pathogenic), Isabella Jones Lab, Beadle N11
- SDS regarding agent hazard information and spill cleanup procedures.
 - Although a spill is unlikely when this protocol is followed, a spill protocol should be present and available. Refer to the EHS SOP, ***Spill and Exposure Response for Biohazardous Materials (Including Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids)***.
- If human pathogens or human or non-human primate materials are being transported, the **universal biohazard symbol** must be visible on the outside of the secondary container.
- Use a cart to transport between rooms, buildings, your car, whenever possible.
- After use, disinfect (for biohazards) or clean (for toxins) the inside and outside of the secondary container. Refer to the EHS SOP, ***Chemical Disinfectants for Biohazardous Materials***.
- Avoid public areas and elevators if possible.
- Do not use public transportation to move biohazardous agents.
- In the event of theft, loss, or release notify the UNL Police Department and EHS immediately.



Other EHS SOPs related to interstate, intrastate, import, or export of biological agents:

- Import and Transfer of Etiologic and Other CDC Regulated Agents
- Importing Animals and Animal Products
- Non-genetically Engineered Plant-Related Articles Requiring APHIS Permits
- Packaging and Shipping Hazardous Materials/Dangerous Goods
- Shipping Biological Substances and Patient Specimens
- Shipping Infectious Substances With or Without Dry Ice

 *If you do not have another means of transport between campuses, please contact EHS for assistance.*