



OAVT RRP Rabies Specimen Packaging Checklist



Primary Packaging

- Place specimen in a clear, leak-proof plastic bag and seal with duct tape
- Place the bag with the specimen in a 2nd clear, leak-proof plastic bag and seal with duct tape.

Note: If the specimen is a Biological, Category B specimen travelling by air (only from Thunder Bay and Northwestern PHUs) this bag needs to be 95 kPa pressure tested.

- Chill all samples that have been stored outside in warm weather and/or appear to be in the beginning stages of decomposition by:
 - Submerging the packaged sample into a bucket with cold water or wet ice
 - After 10-15 minutes remove the package from the water/ice and dry it off
- Place a label on the outside of the 2nd bag and using a black, permanent marker, print the provincial Sample ID # (e.g. 2020ON-ABC-00001-CAT)



Secondary Packaging

- Wrap the double-bagged specimen in newspaper and place it in a third, clear, leak-proof plastic bag and seal with duct tape (if specimen is a Biological, Category B shipping by air this 3rd bag must be PI 650 pressure tested)
- Place the lab form in a clear, leak-proof plastic bag and seal. Secure this bag to the outside of the 3rd plastic bag



Outer Packaging

- If necessary, place 1 or 2 ice packs directly against the triple-bagged specimen
 - NO icepacks in temperatures $<5^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - 1-2 small (8oz) ice packs or 1 large (16 oz) icepack when temperatures = 5°C to 30°C
 - Use an extra ice pack(s) when temperatures $>30^{\circ}\text{C}$ or when shipping delays are expected
- Wrap the triple-bagged specimen (+lab form) and ice packs with newspaper and then place in a cardboard box (if specimen is a Biological, Category B shipping by air this box must be 1.5m drop tested)
- Fill extra space in the box with crumpled newspaper for extra insulation and absorbent material, and to prevent shifting
- Seal the box securely with moisture resistant tape
- Affix the shipping label to the outside of the box (Exempt or Biological Substance, Category B)
- Affix the Purolator way-bill to the outside of the box on a different panel

