

**LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

Subject: SPECIMEN TRANSPORT		Original Issue Date: 4/99	Policy No. IPC-06
		Supersedes: 1/09, 4/16	Reviewed Date: Oct 2022
Departments Consulted: Epidemiology Infection Control & Prevention Laboratory & Pathology	Reviewed & Approved by: Paul D. Holtom, M.D. Noah Wald-Dickler, M.D. Chair & Vice Chair, Infection Control Committee		Approved by: Brad Spellberg, MD Chief Medical Officer

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The aim of the policy is to provide clear guidance to staff involved in the transfer of clinical samples to the laboratory and ensure that specimens are transported safely, securely, and in a timely fashion.

- I. All specimens will be transported to the laboratory as safely as possible.
 - a. All specimens will be placed in an appropriately labeled specimen container that will prevent leakage during collection, handling and transport.
 - b. Specimens must be placed in a plastic bag then transported to the laboratory.
 - c. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) specimens, **respiratory viral testing specimens, and specimens for monkeypox testing** must not be transported via pneumatic tube systems and must be hand delivered to lab to prevent leakage of potentially infectious material.

- II. All specimens will be transported to the clinical laboratory as expeditiously as possible.

Please refer to LAC+USC Labs and Pathology SharePoint site for instructions on specimen collection & transport instructions at: <https://lacounty.sharepoint.com/sites/dhs-lacusc-depts-LabsAndPathology/SitePages/CollectionInstructions.aspx>

References:

United States Department of Labor: OSHA, Standard 1910.1030 (g)(1)(i)
[https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/interlinking/standards/1910.1030\(g\)\(1\)\(i\)](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/interlinking/standards/1910.1030(g)(1)(i))

LAC+USC Labs and Pathology: <https://lacounty.sharepoint.com/sites/dhs-lacusc-depts-LabsAndPathology/SitePages/CollectionInstructions.aspx>